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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 208

www.saipantribune.com | MONDAY OCTOBER 22, 2018 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune | 75¢

Possible storm could hit Marianas

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Another tropical disturbance was seen forming off the coast of Kosrae in the Federated States of Micronesia and it could possibly impact the Marianas early or middle of this week.

According to an advisory from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, the tropical disturbance is currently forming just northwest of Kosrae and, based on current weather models, there is a possibility that it may head to the Marianas.

As of 3pm yesterday, the formation was seen 1,080 miles east-southeast of Saipan, 1,087 miles east-southeast of Tinian, 1,085 miles east-southeast of Rota, 1,100 miles east-southeast of Guam, and 1,180 miles southeast of Pagan.

The NWS advisory said that the disturbance is mov-

See STORM on Page 4

Salary hike panel starts work

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

All seven members of the Advisory Commission on the Compensation of Commonwealth Executive, Legislative, and Judicial officers have been named and the panel is set to meet today to start talks on increasing the salaries of certain government officials.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres named Friday former Senate president Pete P. Reyes, special assistant for Management and Budget Virginia C. Villagomez, and Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp. president Alex Sablan to the commission.

That same day, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) appointed Torres' former chief of staff Matthew Deleon Guerrero and former representative Rosemond B. Santos to the panel.

House Speaker Rafael S.

See SALARY on Page 4

HONORARY CONSUL
Federated States of Micronesia President Peter M. Christian swears in former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente as the first ever FSM honorary consul for the CNMI in a ceremony held Saturday at the Garapan Round House. Besides Benavente is CNMI Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente.
ERWIN ENCINARES

SILENCED FOREVER

Saudi Arabia admits Khashoggi is dead

By SARAH EL DEEB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT (AP)—Two days after Jamal Khashoggi vanished into the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, The Washington Post published a column featuring his byline and the headline "A missing voice." The space below it was blank.

Khashoggi

That influential voice on Saudi affairs has been silenced forever after three decades as a writer, editor, commentator and media adviser.

Eighteen days after Khashoggi disappeared, Saudi Arabia acknowledged early Saturday that the 59-year-old writer has died in what it said was a "fistfight" inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul.

See SAUDI on Page 4

Districts 1 and 3 have most number of voters

» 18,975 record-breaking registered voters
» Kagman has most number; Capitol Hill has least on Saipan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Election Districts 1 and 3 remain with the most number of registered voters in the CNMI for this Nov. 6 general election, according to the Commonwealth Election Commission.

The CEC voter registration statistics showed that, as of Oct. 5, there are 18,975 total number of voters in the CNMI, the highest ever recorded. The previous record-breaking number of registered voters in the CNMI was 17,930, which was posted in the 2016 general election.

Election District 1, which covers San Antonio, San Vicente, and Koblerville, has the highest number with 5,072.

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LOCAL
German passengers on a round-the-world journey that began in Dusseldorf lands in Yap.
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LOCAL
Twenty high schools across FSM will participate in the Habele Robotics League.
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LIFE & STYLE
No matter your taste, if you've got big bucks this is your time of year.
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Local

Teregeyo explains Mariana Resort closure

Public Lands Secretary Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo called for a press conference last Wednesday to give an account of what had happened prior to the closure of the Mariana Resort & Spa that also resulted in the shutdown of the other properties leased by Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd.

Concepcion-Teregeyo said that DPL had issued a request for proposal for the 55,000-square meter property that was previously leased by Kan Pacific in 2015.

"In 2016 the RFP closed. It took about a year. It was sent out and even outside the CNMI in the hopes of attracting a [foreign] investor."

"We did not get other [responses to the] RFP outside of IPI. The bid closed and IPI was the only one that submitted a package. In March 2016, [DPL] issued a notice to award to Mark Brown, who at the time was IPI's chief executive officer. The intent to award listed a couple of things that IPI needs to satisfy."

Two years later, DPL had yet to issue a lease as DPL was still negotiating with IPI—the lone investor that submitted a bid. "Although, IPI submitted a bid, we were still trying to come to terms with the package. We have vetted it, we have met with them, and we have told them that there are a couple of things that needed to be cleared."

She pointed out that it would be the Legislature that would approve the land lease agreement—not DPL. "In the end, when that submission is satisfactoty to DPL we will then submit a package to the Legislature."

"Only the Legislature can approve the Marpi properties…not DPL and not the governor but the Legislature."

Concepcion-Teregeyo added that they acted at once after realizing in 2017 that they might not have an agreement with IPI in place. "It is likely that we may not have a lease in place by April 2018, which was Kan Pacific's last day."

"That's why, last summer, DPL published [invitations to bid] for security to protect the entire area should we have no lease [and] lawn care, with Saipan having a tropical climate and vegetation growing fast, so we have to protect that."

She said they needed to make sure that backup plans were in place. "In order to keep the property value up, we needed to make sure we maintain the property. We needed to have backup plans should we not have a lease in place. April 30 came along, and still no lease agreement but there's a reason for that."

Concepcion-Teregeyo acknowledged that her department was criticized for allegedly not doing its job. "We're doing our jobs, we're making sure that we just don't award it to IPI or to anybody." ***(Jon Perez)***

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Emergency food aid on Rota starts today

Nutrition Assistance Program personnel will be on Rota beginning today, Oct. 22, 2018, to implement the Emergency Food Assistance, as authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service, by providing food coupon benefits to eligible residents who have been affected by Typhoon Mangkhut, which occurred on Sept. 10-11, 2018.

The Emergency Food Assistance operation will be conducted at the Rota Youth Center from Oct. 22 to 26, from 8am to 6pm.

The Emergency Food Assistance is divided in two programs: Disaster NAP or DNAP and Supplemental Disaster Assistance.

DNAP is primarily for non-NAP households and any resident who resided on Rota at the time of the storm. The Supplemental Disaster Assistance is for ongoing NAP households or individuals on Rota.

DNAP

DNAP applicants will be required to fill out a disaster application. To be eligible for DNAP the household must meet the following criteria: residency, income and resources threshold.

Residency means the household and its members must have resided on Rota during the dates the typhoon occurred. The information that is required for the residency criteria must be verified. Examples of verification for residency could be a CUC, telephone, cable, rental billings, vehicle registration, voter's ID, school or medical records, or tax returns.

The criteria for income mean the monthly gross income of the entire household, with the deduction of disaster-related expenses, was equal to or below the NAP's fiscal year 2018 maximum monthly gross income levels for their respective household size. The information required for income and, if applicable, disaster related expenses must be within the period of Sept. 9 to Oct. 8, 2018, the disaster period authorized. Examples for income verification could be pay stubs, tax returns, or rental income including disaster related expense receipts. Examples of disaster related expenses are food loss or food destroyed as a result of the storm, a reduction or termination of income as a direct result of the disaster, cost for replacing or repairing household goods, clothing, food, and property, or cost for temporary shelter or medical expenses.

Resources are described as bank accounts such as checking or savings account, or any liquid resources accessible to the household. Resources that were not accessible to the household during the disaster period are not to be included as resources. Examples for resources verification include most recent bank statements or any instrument that can be provided as verification of their accessible resources. The criteria for resources mean the value of resources that was accessible to the household during the disaster period was equal to or below the NAP's fiscal year 2018 resources limit, as provided below.

- A household with all members aged 54 and below: $2,250 limit
- A household with at least one member aged 55 years or older: $3,500 limit

Additionally, the identity of all individuals will be verified. Examples for identity verification are valid photo identification of the applicant, including birth certificates or passports and Social Security cards for each member of the household.

As an emphasis, the disaster period authorized for DNAP is from Sept. 9 to Oct. 8, 2018, which mean that the NAP will verify residency, income, including disaster related expenses, and resources for this period.

For reason any or all documentation have been lost or destroyed by the storm which precludes a DNAP applicant from providing actual documentation, an affidavit may be used as their verification. Affidavit forms will be provided during the interview process at the Rota Youth Center, the designated DNAP center.

Supplemental disaster assistance (ongoing NAP households)

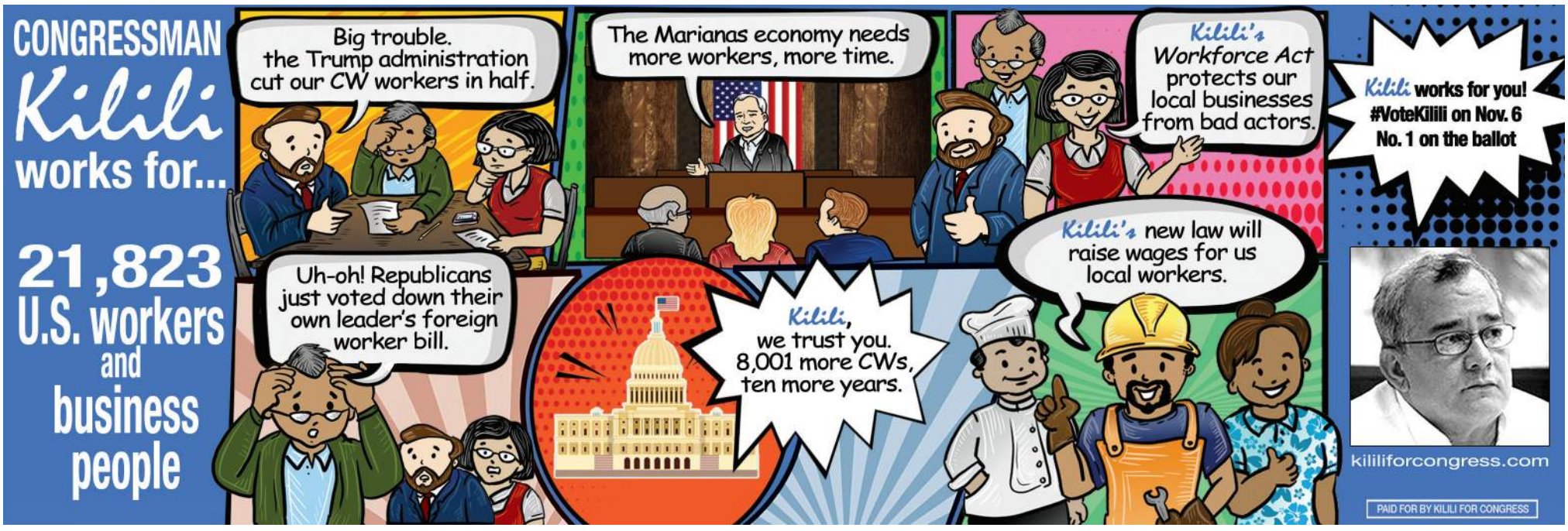
Ongoing NAP households on Rota who received NAP benefits for September 2018 but was lower than the NAP maximum benefit allotment will be given a supplemental disaster benefit, even if they have already received a replacement of benefits. For example, a household of two who received $400 in September 2018 will be given a $269 supplemental benefit in order to bring their previously issued benefit up to the maximum benefit of $629. The replacement of benefits that were issued on Oct. 4-5, 2018, is considered a separate program from the supplemental disaster assistance which will not be counted against eligibility for supplemental disaster assistance. Ongoing households who are seeking for supplemental disaster assistance will be required to fill out a disaster application form. In addition, the head of household or the authorized representative will be required to present their valid photo ID such as driver's license or passport with their NAP ID card at the time of application.

Ongoing NAP households who received maximum benefit allotment for September 2018 are not eligible for Supplemental Disaster Assistance. This program only provides supplemental benefits for Rota NAP households who received less than the maximum benefit allotment.

Ongoing NAP households are not eligible for DNAP and shall not receive DNAP benefits.

Concealing income and financial assets, or disposing of substantial financial assets, or misrepresenting household members and relationships, or misrepresenting residence is considered eligibility fraud.

For more information, contact NAP at 237-2842 or 237-2843. ***(PR)***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Training mandatory for poll workers

The Commonwealth Election Commission advises poll supervisors, poll workers, and alternates that failing to attend the poll workers training will cause them to be replaced.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez said all poll supervisors, poll workers, and alternates are required to attend the training so she can certify them prior to being assigned their duties.

The training agenda includes election procedures, ethics act, tasks, and responsibilities.

Under a statute, the "executive director shall employ poll workers and poll supervisors necessary to conduct elections and administer the commission's other duties and responsibilities."

Such employees shall be hired from lists of individuals recommended by the recognized political parties—Republican and Democratic—in "such a manner as to ensure a fair representation of all recognized political parties in the total cohort."

Villagomez

All such employees, the statute says, shall receive training and certification in procedures, ethics, tasks, and responsibilities prior to being assigned any duties.

For Saipan and Northern Islands, the training will be at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Oct. 29 at 6pm.

For Tinian and Aguiguan, the training will be at the Tinian-Northern Marianas College room D on Oct. 29 at 5:30pm.

For Rota, the training will be at the Rota-NMC room B2 on Oct. 30 at 6pm.

CEC needs 94 poll workers. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Hollywood director: Saipan a hidden gem

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A Hollywood director that is currently shooting a Chinese-produced TV series here thinks that Saipan is a "hidden gem" in the Pacific.

In a news briefing last Sunday, actor and director John Henry Richardson said that he and his crew started shooting nearly three weeks ago.

Richardson wants to return here and plans to recommend the Marianas location to other directors because of its beauty and versatility.

"Saipan is ideal for movie shooting…it is the best-kept secret in the Pacific because of its atmosphere," he said.

Richardson added that if he can replicate Tucson, Arizona on Saipan, anything is possible film-wise.

"Saipan can be any place… and if you can replicate the Arizona desert on Saipan, then we can do anything here," he said.

Aside from the island's versatile scenery, Richardson also admired the warm welcome he and his crew have received since they started filming. "Everyone is happy to have us here. They would even stop traffic for you…you can even have gunfights on the streets and that's what we want," he said.

Richardson is with a crew that is shooting a TV series called *Seven Days* that is produced by Pilot Media. The crew originally started shooting in Las Vegas but decided to move the production to Saipan because majority of the crew are Chinese nationals and were required to exit the United States from time to time, as required by their visas.

They eventually decided to move the shoot here since Saipan is the closest U.S. territory to China that would allot them ample amount of time to complete the series and near enough from the crew to return to China any time.

The series is set to air in China by 2019, but discussions are still being held about premiering the series on Saipan where the majority of the scenes are being shot.

SAUDI

From Page 1

The Saudi announcement shed little light on the mystery of Khashoggi's disappearance and contradicted leaks from Turkish media that he was tortured, killed and dismembered.

Once close to the royal family and an adviser to the country's former intelligence chief, Khashoggi became a sharp critic of its young and ambitious crown prince, Mohammed Bin Salman, for cracking down on any opposition and miring the country in a conflict in neighboring Yemen that killed thousands of people.

His disappearance and death ignited a diplomatic firestorm and shook Saudi Arabia's alliances with its partners, brought calls for sanctions against the oil-rich kingdom and horrified free speech advocates and people around the world who never read his work.

In a final column for the Post, which the newspaper said it received from his assistant on Oct. 3 and was published Oct. 17, Khashoggi warned that governments in the Middle East "have been given free rein to continue silencing the media at an increasing rate."

He noted that some Middle East leaders were blocking internet access so they could tightly control what their citizens can see.

"The Arab world is facing its own version of an Iron Curtain, imposed not by external actors but through domestic forces vying for power," Khashoggi wrote.

Born into a family of wealth and connections—he was the nephew of Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi and a cousin of Princess Diana's boyfriend Dodi Fayed—Khashoggi was a voice of moderation in a kingdom at war with terrorism in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States.

He spent years explaining its policies to outsiders, but made himself unpopular at home, saying the Saudi-led intervention in Yemen "would validate" those who compared the kingdom's actions to what Russia and Iran were doing in Syria. He also was critical of Riyadh's diplomatic break with Qatar.

After Khashoggi criticized the kingdom's celebration of Donald Trump's election as president in 2016, a royal court official who was close to him advised him to stop tweeting and publishing stories, a sign that his opinion was no longer welcome.

Khashoggi went into a self-imposed exile, moving to Washington in 2017, writing regular columns for the Post and pursuing pro-democracy projects.

The crown prince's crackdown intensified after Khashoggi left, reaching some of his friends and associates. A former boss, Saudi billionaire Alwaleed bin Talal, was among dozens of businessmen and royals put under house arrest in an upscale hotel in November 2017 in a crackdown on corruption that soon resembled a shakedown of the kingdom's most powerful people.

"Saudi royals view themselves as The Party, sharing power and ruling by consent, in an arrangement that is largely opaque," Khashoggi wrote after the crackdown, adding that the crown prince "is upending this arrangement and centralizing all power within his position."

But he told the Economist in May that he did not agree with Saudis who were "calling for regime change and stuff like that. ... I believe in the system. I just want a reform system. Actually, I want the system to give me a voice to allow me to speak."

While he supported fighting corruption, he described what was happening in Saudi Arabia as "selective justice." He argued that corruption was so entrenched that royals monopolize land ownership and fewer than 40 percent of Saudis can own their homes.

"The crown prince is engaging in a major economic transformation. And since there is no one to debate it, he will not see the (mistakes) of these transformations," he told the Economist.

A British-Palestinian friend, Azzam Tamimi, said Khashoggi spoke to Westerners in a language they understand.

Prince Mohammed "spent millions on PR and wanted to present himself as a modernist savior who brings rights to women," Tamimi said. "Jamal used to show the other face that Mohammed bin Salam didn't want to show."

Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi was born in Medina in 1958 and graduated from Indiana State University. He began his career as a journalist in the 1980s, covering the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and the decade-long war that followed for the English-language daily, the Saudi Gazette. He covered Algeria's 1990s war against Islamic militants, the Balkan wars and the rise of Islamists in Sudan.

In his youth, according to one friend, Khashoggi briefly joined the Muslim Brotherhood, the strongest organization of political Islam in the region. He soon left it, wanting to remain outside organized groups, but throughout his life kept good relations with all sides.

He was editor of Medina's Islamist-leaning paper for nine years.

While in Afghanistan, he interviewed Osama bin Laden before he became the leader of al-Qaida. They later met again in Sudan in 1995.

"He could have done much better for himself, his family and his religion if he remained moderate," Khashoggi said after bin Laden was killed by a U.S. raid in Pakistan in 2011.

In a column for The Daily Star in Lebanon on Sept. 10, 2002, Khashoggi wrote: "Osama bin Laden's hijacked planes not only attacked the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. They also attacked Islam as a faith. They attacked the values of tolerance and coexistence that Islam preaches."

He had a brief stint in 2003 as editor of a liberal Saudi paper, Al-Watan, founded after 9/11, and he was often quoted in the West as a reformist voice and expert on Islamic radicals. But after two months, he was fired when the kingdom's ultra-conservative clerics pushed back against his criticism of the powerful religious police.

Khashoggi served as media adviser to Turki Al-Faisal, the country's former spy chief, who was at the time the ambassador to Britain and then the United States.

STORM

From Page 1

ing slowly westward and is expected to strengthen as it approaches the Marianas early this week.

The disturbance is the subject of a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert from the Joint Typhoon Warning Center.

According to the forecast, there is considerable uncertainty as to the exact track and strength of the system. The current model indicates that the center of the system could track anywhere from near Guam to north of Saipan and some models indicate that it may even pass east of the Marianas.

Despite the uncertainties, residents of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands are strongly encouraged to keep themselves informed of the latest forecasts and statements from the National Weather Service and its respective emergency management office.

SALARY

From Page 1

Demapan (R-Saipan) has already named Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) and Legislative Bureau fiscal analyst David Demapan as the representatives of the House of Representatives on the commission.

The appointment of the seven individuals is based on Section 3 of Public Law 20-71 that mandated the creation of the commission within 15 days after Torres signed P.L. 20-71 (Senate Bill 20-11) into law on Oct. 5.

Reyes, Villagomez, and Sablan were the same persons that Torres had appointed to the previous commission that made the recommendation on the compensation that was stated in Public Law 19-83, which the CNMI Supreme Court later deemed unconstitutional, including the previous salary increases enacted under P.L.s 4-32 and 7-31.

The commission, formed based on P.L. 20-71, is set to meet at 10am today to elect a chairman and other officers.

The commission's main objective is to comply with the CNMI Superior Court's decision that salary increases for members of the three branches of the government must be calculated based off a specific accepted composite price index.

The commission's main task is to review the compensation of the members of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government based on an existing CPI.

The advisory commission is in accordance with Article II Section X of the CNMI Constitution where it states the salary of members of the Legislature "may be changed no more than once every four years and upon the recommendation of an advisory commission established by law to make recommendations concerning the compensation of Commonwealth executive, legislative, and judicial officers."

The commission needs to come up with a recommendation before the inauguration of the 21st Legislature in January.

If that doesn't happen, the annual salary of legislators would go down from the current $39,300 to $8,000.

DISTRICTS

From Page 1

This is followed by Election District 3 or the San Jose/Oleai and Garapan areas with 3,803.

Election District 5, the Kagman area, is third with 2,839. Election District 7 or Rota, has 2,001.

Election District 4, which covers Tanapag, San Roque, Capital Hill, and Northern Islands, has 1,939. Election District 6 or Tinian has 1,758.

The least number of voters is Election District 2 or the Chalan Kanoa/Susupe areas, which has 1,563 voters.

Of all the villages on Saipan, Kagman has the highest number of voters at 2,839. San Vicente is second with Garapan with 2,824, and San Vicente with 2,815. Capital Hill has the least number of voters on Saipan with 420.

German travelers visit Yap in worldwide private tour

COLONIA, Yap—The private jet set down at Yap International Airport on Friday, Oct. 15, late in the afternoon. The 39 passengers from Germany were on a round-the-world journey that began in Dusseldorf and would take them to Canada, Alaska, Japan, Yap, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia and Oman.

The young Yapese girls who greeted the visitors in traditional grass skirts, placed leis around their necks as a group of young singers, accompanied by a ukulele, welcomed the visitors to the island. Phones and cameras clicked as pictures were taken of their warm welcome to Yap.

Founded in 1985, tour operator Consul Weltreisen claims to be the first to carry out worldwide travel with chartered aircraft, taking travelers "to some of the most extraordinary places in the world," according to the company's director, Dieter Forsen.

Forsen has been travelling since he hiked on foot across the Sahara Desert at the age of 21. He arrived in Yap in May to check out what Yap had to offer his wealthy clients. Impressed with what he saw and experienced, Yap was added to the itinerary.

Hosted by Manta Ray Bay Resort and Yap Divers, the group began their stay Friday with a tour of the island followed by a sunset barbecue on the beach. Saturday included snorkeling and attending lectures about Yap's long history with a special emphasis on the German era by Francis Reg of the Yap Historical Preservation Office, the culture of Yap's Outer Islands by Larry Raigetal, and the island's plants and their uses by ethnobiologist Dr. Marjorie C. Falanruw of the U.S. Forest Service and a long-time resident of the island. They also enjoyed an afternoon at the Living History Museum where Martin Ruwniyol hosted cultural demonstrations that featured weaving techniques for body decoration and baskets, cooking methods, a display of food for tasting, and traditional dancing.

"We were honored to be included in the itinerary of this never-before-offered travel experience and look forward to welcoming more of Consul Weltreisen's travelers to Yap in the future," said Bill Acker, owner of MRBR. "We always enjoy introducing visitors to Yap's culture and having the opportunity to provide an insight into Yap's unique way of life and our beautiful island. Out of all the better known islands within Micronesia, Mr. Forsen chose our little island, making this event even more special." ***(PR)***

German visitors to Yap watch a traditional dance.
JOYCE MCCLURE

Yap museum getting new additions

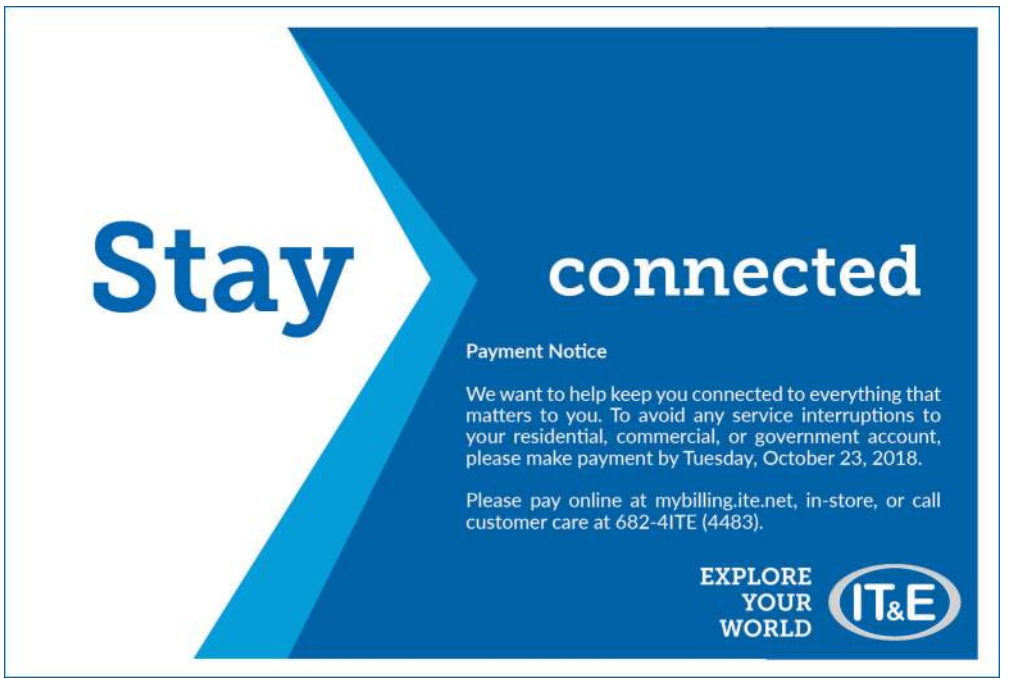
COLONIA, Yap—The Yap Living History Museum is soon to begin construction on a new climate-controlled building that will house displays of historical artifacts, photos and other materials, and will host cultural demonstrations and lectures for the island's visitors.

Located in an area adjacent to the outdoor museum's traditional community houses and sitting platform, the style of the new "Folk-Victorian" building "will hark back to the German era of Yap's history," said Don Evans, chairman of the board of YLHM.

The museum's park-like setting is a popular gathering spot for the island's festivals, celebrations and special events including Yap Day. Lamp posts will be installed around two sides of the property to provide increased lighting for nighttime events. Pop-up canopies are also on order for use by vendors who offer food, handicrafts and other items for sale during the events' night markets.

"When the building is finished, we will begin a monthly Taste of Yap event to provide visitors with the opportunity to taste local food, purchase handicrafts, view cultural demonstrations like basket weaving and the traditional dances that Yap is famous for," Evans said. "Our research has shown that visitors are eager for more opportunities like this to experience and learn about Yap's unique culture."

The canopies will be provided to local vendors for their use during the late afternoon and evening event. Funding for the building, lighting and canopies is provided by JEMCO and CFSM. ***(PR)***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Mental evaluation of murder suspect yet to happen

A man who has been in jail since October 2017 over the killing of a woman and injuring her husband in Chalan Kanoa has yet to undergo mental evaluation.

The prosecution informed Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho about the status of the mental evaluation issue at a status conference on Thursday.

Camacho later reset the status hearing to Jan. 30, 2019, to allow the Office of the Attorney General's expert to conduct a mental evaluation on Alfonso Sebastian Parongan.

Chief Prosecutor Michele Harris and assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio appeared for the government at the hearing. Assistant public defender Nancy Dominski is counsel for Parongan.

Dominski filed Thursday afternoon a one-sentence demand for speedy trial.

"Defendant again renews his demand for a speedy jury trial," Dominski said.

Parongan, 56, has been in jail since he was arrested shortly after the incident in October 2017. No bail was imposed because it's a murder case.

Through his counsel, Parongan asserted last July a plea of not guilty for reason of insanity. The *Saipan Tribune* learned that the mental evaluation report for Parongan was filed in court under seal. The OAG wants to have Parongan evaluated by a mental expert.

The OAG charged Parongan with first-degree murder, attempted second-degree murder, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Police said that Parongan confessed to smoking methamphetamine and drinking 12 cans of beer on the day of the incident.

The woman suffered multiple stab wounds, while her husband sustained 12 injuries in different parts of his body, police said.

The woman was reportedly trying to collect house rental from Parongan when the two got into argument on the evening of Oct. 29, 2017. He allegedly stabbed the woman and her husband with a kitchen knife. ***(Ferdie De La torre)***

Utah's Bishop supports Demapan

Bishop

U.S. lawmaker Rob Bishop (R-Utah) has thrown his support behind Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) as the CNMI's delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, becoming the latest ranking GOP leader to back Demapan's congressional candidacy.

U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wisconsin), House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy(R-California), and House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-Louisiana)—all Republican Party leaders—and National Republican Congressional Committee chair Steve Stivers endorsed Demapan's candidacy earlier this month.

Bishop is best remembered for introducing in the House the NMI Workforce Act of 2018 that was signed by President Trump in late July. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) had introduced a similar bill in the U.S. Senate but it had to be re-introduced in the U.S. House since it has a revenue-generating section, which means it has to originate from the House.

Bishop said he's been impressed with the CNMI, based on his previous meetings with Demapan. "I recognized that he [Demapan] reflects the same qualities of the high-caliber people found in the CNMI and would represent them well in Washington, [D.C.]. I have no doubt that [he] would be a strong voice for the CNMI in the [U.S.] Congress."

Bishop visited the CNMI early this year as part of a U.S. congressional delegation.

Demapan, who is challenging incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), thanked Bishop's endorsement, saying that he was given the chance to work closely with Bishop when the Utah lawmaker was working on the NMI Workforce Act that was a big help to the CNMI's economy.

"He is a great friend of the Commonwealth and has offered to continue being of help to the [CNMI]. I believe this is important…" said Demapan. "…With a Republican White House over the next two years and signs that Republicans will maintain control of Congress, we have a tremendous opportunity to work with chair Bishop on better Medicaid benefits by electing a Republican from the CNMI." ***(Jon Perez)***

Accreditor notes improvements at PSS

An accrediting organization has noted several improvements at the Public School System compared to what they saw during their visit five years ago.

Last Thursday, AdvancED, a non-profit, non-governmental accrediting organization that accredits primary and secondary schools across the nation and even internationally, had positive findings for PSS after sending a 10-member team to the CNMI on a one-week visit.

The group collected data from over 500 individuals, including employees and students, throughout Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

Agnes Smith, the lead evaluator for AdvancED, said in a presentation last Thursday that, compared to their visit in 2013, PSS has had several infrastructure upgrades.

"We had noticed that they had some facility upgrades as funding has been made available; they have had upgrades in emerging technology added to classrooms; they have most definitely implemented a very clear system of testing children to determine exactly where their level[s] are in proficiency; and they have been collecting and analyzing that data," Smith said. "Those are very significant and important improvements in the CNMI," she added.

The CNMI had about six recommendations in 2013; this time there were only four, Smith said.

While the findings were significant, it did not really surprise PSS, said interim Education commissioner Glenn Muna last Thursday, since they are already in the process of addressing some of the recommendations.

"We already started the process to address [the recommendations]," he said. "The nice thing about the accreditation process is that it is a continuous improvement—we look at our school district and our data and we assess what we need to do…and from there we move forward with that," he said.

While only a very general report, Smith noted that minor tweaks to further improve the efficiency of PSS could be had.

Muña noted that a more complete and formal report would be provided to PSS within 45 days.

Leila Staffler, Kagman High School principal, believes the recommendations and the findings were "right on par" with the current direction of PSS.

"…Their recommendation for the next step of evaluating our practices is something that we have already started doing this school year," said Staffler. "…It's really nice to get that confirmation of what we are doing already is where we should have been in the first place. It was a very reaffirming practice and experience, what we went through this week." ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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Telephone Nos. (671) 477-7170/8562; Fax No. (671) 472-3116
E-mail: saipan@moylans.net; Website: www.moylansinsurance.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Change of Company Name

This is to inform the general public that the name of the Company has been changed, from "Dongbu Insurance Company, Ltd." to "DB Insurance Co., Ltd.", with effect from 26 July 2018 as approved by the Insurance Commission, Department of Commerce of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The change of name of the Company as aforesaid does not alter the legal status or constitution of the Company nor does it affect any rights or obligations of the Company.

Moylan's Insurance Underwriters (Int'l.), Inc. remains as the authorized General Agent of the Company in the territory of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

For and on behalf of
DB Insurance Co., Ltd.

By:

Shinchul Kim
Guam - Branch Manager

Place: Saipan, CNMI

COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 ▪ Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 ▪ Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.justice.gov.mp

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement No. 18-001
POSITION TITLE: **Deputy Clerk I**
Department: Superior Court, Clerk of Court
Annual Salary Range: $20,485
Location: Saipan
Opening Date:10/15/2018 Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-002
POSITION TITLE: **Deputy Clerk I - Rota**
Department: Superior Court, Clerk of Court
Annual Salary Range: $20,485
Location: Rota
Opening Date:10/15/2018 Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-003
POSITION TITLE: **Deputy Marshal I**
Department: Marshal Services Division
Annual Salary: $20,000
Location: Saipan
Opening Date: 10/15/2018 Closing Date: Until Filled

Announcement No. 18-004
POSITION TITLE: **Deputy Marshal I - Rota**
Department: Marshal Services Division
Annual Salary: $20,000
Location: Rota
Opening Date: 10/15/2018 Closing Date: Until Filled

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application form at Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Christmas in the Marianas returns in December

The Marianas Visitors Authority, PDM Promoters, Inc., Team PDI, and other travel partners will bring back Christmas in the Marianas December at Paseo de Marianas in downtown Garapan.

The weekly celebration offers holiday entertainment for visitors and residents, alike, from 5pm to 9pm each night. Christmas in the Marianas is scheduled for the first four Saturdays of the month, with a Mochitsuki-themed fifth Saturday tentatively scheduled for Dec. 29., marking the pounding of rice to make "mochi," a traditional event in preparation for the new year.

"We are already receiving enthusiastic support from island schools, and we are looking forward to another great Christmas in the Marianas this year," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "Christmas in the Marianas is a classic mix of everything that makes the holidays special, embracing our islands' broad cultural diversity and highlighting the best of our unique island traditions. We invite everyone to come and enjoy an island Christmas with us in December."

The annual schoolwide Christmas Tree Decoration Competition will be held on Dec. 1 and a Christmas caroling competition for elementary school students. The school trees, decorated with recyclable material, will remain on display at the pedestrian mall in Saipan's main tourist district throughout the month. In addition, this year high school students will create a mini-Christmas village.

On Dec. 8, middle and high school students will continue with the Christmas Caroling Competition. On Dec. 15, the Christmas Parade of Floats will be held around sunset in Garapan along Beach Road to American Memorial Park, followed by a costume show. Dec. 22 will feature another evening of holiday fun. Awards for all competitions will also be made.

Participating schools include Garapan Elementary, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary, Kagman Elementary, Koblerville Elementary, Oleai Elementary, San Vicente Elementary, William S. Reyes Elementary, Chacha Oceanview Middle School, Dandan Middle School, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, Hopwood Junior High, Tanapag Middle School, Marianas High, Saipan Southern High, Kagman High, Agape Christian School, Grace Christian Academy. Mount Carmel School, Saipan Community School, and Green Meadow School.

For more information, contact MVA Community Projects specialist Jack Aranda at jaranda@mymarianas.com or 1 (670) 664-3210 or visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

File photo shows students displaying their Christmas costume made from recyclable and natural material during the Marianas Visitors Authority's Christmas in the Marianas at Paseo de Marianas on Dec. 17, 2016. MVA

Sign up for JKPL golf tournament

The last day to register for the 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library golf tournament is this Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018, at 5pm.

The 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course!

Contact Joeten-Kiyu Public Library for tickets and more information at 235-7315/16 or 287-7161. All proceeds will benefit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and its branch libraries' resource and collection development, circulation materials, and library programs.

For the latest news and events, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. Follow the library on Instagram @joetenkiyu. The library's hours of operation are as follows: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm; Saturday, 9am-4pm; and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. ***(PR)***

Joeten Motors donates a 2018 Nissan Rogue Sport vehicle to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library as a hole-in-one prize for hole No. 13 at the 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018 at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort west course. This makes Joeten Motors a diamond level sponsor. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

APAFS Investment Fund is CEFEX-certified

PITTSBURGH—The Centre for Fiduciary Excellence, an Fi360 company, announced Friday that it has certified the investment fiduciary practices of Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies Investment Fund of Guam as adhering to a global standard of excellence for Investment Stewards.

APAFS is among the first organization in the Asia Pacific Region to successfully complete the independent CEFEX certification process.

The CEFEX standard of excellence for Investment Stewards is based on 21 fiduciary practices that seek to increase long-term investment performance by diversifying the portfolio across multiple asset classes and peer groups, evaluating investment management fees and expenses, and selecting or terminating investment managers. The practices also help uncover investment and/or procedural risk, which may assist in prioritizing investment management projects.

CEFEX managing director Carlos Panksep said: "Through CEFEX's independent assessment, the certification provides assurance to donors and stakeholders that APAFS has demonstrated adherence to the industry's best fiduciary practices."

The fiduciary practices are based on the Fi360 Inc. publication: Prudent Practices for Investment Stewards and are substantiated by legislation, case law and regulatory opinion letters from the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, Uniform Prudent Investor Act, Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act, and the Uniform Management of Public Employee Retirement Systems Act in the U.S.

A summary of the fiduciary practices can be viewed by clicking on APAFS's online CEFEX certificate, available at www.cefex.org.

The annual certification process involves a detailed review of documents, investments and procedures followed by on-site interviews with key personnel. A full copy of the standard is available at www.fi360.com. More information on APAFS is available at: www.apafs.org. ***(PR)***

"A Tradition of Excellence!"

Dr. Dennis Williams, a renowned eye surgeon, continues the tradition of excellence at Marianas Eye Institute.

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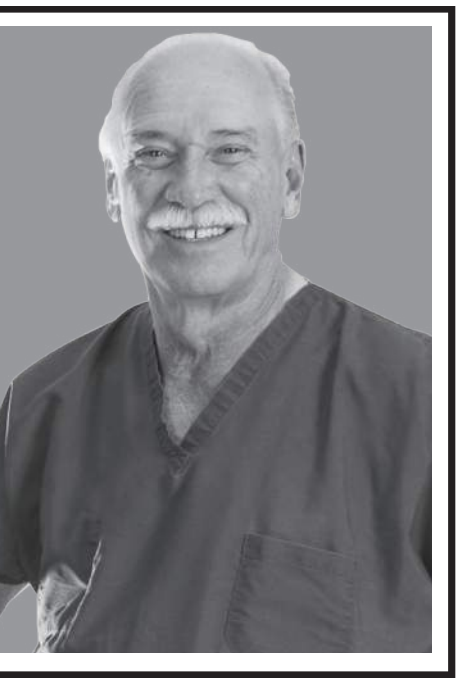

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Habele Robotics League expands across Micronesia

Students at nearly twenty high schools across the Federated States of Micronesia will participate in the Habele Robotics League this school year.

Building on the success of the popular Yap Robo League, the hands-on robotics program is expanding to include high schools across Chuuk and Pohnpei for the first time. Over the course of the summer, Habele directors met with principals, officials and community leaders across these three states to introduce the program, set expectations, and plan out the 2018-19 school year.

For many of the new participants, the Habele Robotics League represents a first opportunity for students to engage with STEM learning in a hands-on way. Schools with previous Robo League experience provide an encouraging example for their peers across the FSM, through heightened interest in technology education, and dynamic student leadership. In Yap State, representatives from school robotics clubs have formed a Student Leadership Team, which meets to plan out details for competitions and training.

Students at nearly twenty high schools across the Federated States of Micronesia will participate in the Habele Robotics League this school year. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"New participants in Chuuk and Pohnpei are bringing a lot of enthusiasm and excitement to the Robo League this year," said Matt Coleman, executive director of Habele. "The Yap Robo League has paved the way by showing that students are hungry for this kind of opportunity. They respond to it with real creativity and leadership."

Following the delivery of new robot kits to participating schools, students across all three states will receive technical training from Habele instructors. In the Spring semester of 2019, students from Yap Catholic High School, the winners of the 2018 Robo Day competition, will send teams of students to Chuuk and Pohnpei for additional peer-to-peer instruction. Students in all three states are working toward participating in their respective statewide Robo Days this spring, where they will showcase the skills mastered over the course of the school year. Established by former Peace Corps volunteers, Habele is a U.S.-based nonprofit, advancing educational access and accomplishment across Micronesia. ***(Habele)***

FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Hyatt named to Fortune's 'world's best workplaces'

CHICAGO—Hyatt Hotels Corp. said Friday that Hyatt has been named to the 2018 Fortune "World's Best Workplaces" list, an annual ranking of companies with outstanding workplace cultures according to global research and consulting firm Great Place to Work and Fortune.

Hyatt has earned a spot on the list every year since its first appearance in 2014, and this year's global recognition follows placement across national Great Place to Work best workplace lists this year in Brazil, France, Greater China, Germany, India, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and the U.S.

More than 7,000 organizations participated in the survey process, representing the voices of 12 million employees worldwide. From that pool of companies, the 25 World's Best Workplaces have been selected.

"The wellbeing of our colleagues is foundational to our business success, because it is our colleagues who create unparalleled experiences for our guests and one another each day. This recognition acknowledges each of the thousands of Hyatt family members worldwide who care for people so they can be their best," said Mark Hoplamazian, president and CEO, Hyatt Hotels Corp. "Driven by our purpose, Hyatt hotels and offices create an environment where all colleagues can be their true selves and foster genuine relationships."

Hyatt offers employees benefits and perks designed to allow employees to be their best, including:

Travel perks including complimentary and discounted stays at Hyatt hotels around the world

A family assistance policy that provides employees with paid time off following the birth or adoption of a child as well as financial assistance for adoption

Access to skills training and world-class education opportunities

A commitment to workplace inclusion and diversity, including many diversity business resource groups, that results in an environment where everyone can be their genuine selves at work

Work-life benefits including exercise initiatives, on-site rest and relaxation and even meditation lounges, and flexible schedules

Free or subsidized meals to hotel employees during work hours

This recognition comes on the heels of Hyatt's debut of RiseHY, a new global program designed to pair the hospitality industry's career opportunities with young people who need them. As part of the initiative, Hyatt hotels around the world have committed to hiring 10,000 people ages 16 to 24 who are neither in school nor working by 2025.

This 2018 Fortune "World's Best Workplaces" recognition adds to a growing list of workplace accolades Hyatt received in the past year.. ***(PR)***

Zoning Board

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel. 670-234-9661, FAX 234-9666
E-mail ZoningBoard@zoning.gov.mp

Diego C. Blanco, Chairman Mariano Taitano, Treasurer Joe E. Ayuyu, Jr., Secretary Patrick Reyes, Member

PRESS RELEASE/PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Zoning announces its 8th annual Public Outreach Schedule

The Zoning Office has been conducting its 8th annual Public Outreach and Education Awareness meetings at specified locations around the island with community members, businesses, developers, property-owners, or any interested members of the general public the past several weeks. These meetings serve to disseminate information to the public about proposed amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013 and the Official Zoning maps, as well as to engage them in discussions to assist the Zoning Board's next update of the island's Zoning Law.

The following schedule includes the first 4 meetings in September, followed by additional dates and targeted villages.

DATE	PLACE	TIME
September 18, 2018	Multipurpose Center, Susupe	5:30pm
September 20, 2018	Dandan Middle School cafeteria, Dandan	5:30pm
September 25, 2018	GTC Elementary School cafeteria, San Roque	5:30pm
September 27, 2018	Kagman High School cafeteria, Kagman	5:30pm
ADDITIONAL DATES & VENUES		
October 02, 2018	GTC Elementary School cafeteria, San Roque	5:30pm
October 16, 2018	Saipan Southern High School cafeteria, Koblerville	5:30pm
October 18, 2018	Oleai Elementary School cafeteria, Oleai/San Jose	5:30pm
October 23, 2018	Tanapag Middle School cafeteria, Tanapag	5:30pm
October 30, 2018	Saipan Southern High School cafeteria, Koblerville	5:30pm

POSTPONED

The Zoning Board and Office encourages the public to join the meetings to learn more about the Law.

For more information, please visit our website at www.zoning.gov.mp or call the Zoning Office at 234-9661 or visit the office located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building located in Dandan.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-18-022

ROTA WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 2 PROJECT
(W17-053)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Rota Water System Improvements Phase 2 Project in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general installation of a new main waterline; connections to the existing waterlines; installation of gate valve assembly, PRV installations, PRV CMU protective boxes, flush hydrant, fencing, restoration of existing asphalt concrete road; and other related work. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

*CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.*

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **November 2, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Rota Directors Office, Sinapalo, Rota.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-022, Rota Water System Improvements Phase 2 Project"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 15, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 6 , 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to LCDR Travis Spaeth, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email travis.spaeth@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

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Opinion

Hafa Adai
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 208

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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EDITORIAL

Khashoggi's fate

AP
In this image made from a March 2018 video provided by Metafora Production, Jamal Khashoggi speaks during an interview at an undisclosed location.

Saudi Arabia's 33-year-old de facto leader, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, paints himself as reformist. He has allowed women to drive, reined in the kingdom's religious police and permitted movie theaters to open. Those reforms, however, mask a regime that routinely arrests its critics and prosecutes a bloody, Saudi-led military campaign in Yemen that continues to yield mounting civilian casualties.

Now the Western world fears that track record may include assassination. Evidence continues to build that Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi succumbed to a vile death plot carried out by a team of Saudi agents at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul. Early on the afternoon of Oct. 2, Khashoggi, 59 and a resident of the U.S., walked into the consulate to retrieve documents he needed for his upcoming wedding. His fiancee, Hatice Cengiz, waited until after midnight outside the consulate for him to come out. He never did.

Khashoggi, a *Washington Post* columnist, wrote critically about Prince Mohammed and the Saudi regime. Through a steady stream of leaks and videos, Turkish officials have laid out their allegations against the Saudis: A team of 15 Saudi intelligence agents, including an autopsy expert, arrive in Istanbul, murder Khashoggi at the consulate, dismember his body and return to Saudi Arabia. Several media outlets report that Turkish officials have audio and video recordings of Khashoggi's murder at the consulate. Riyadh has stuck to its assertion that Khashoggi left the consulate alive, but it hasn't provided security video or other evidence to back that claim.

Turkey has pressed the Saudis to explain what happened. The response from President Donald Trump, who has coddled and courted the Saudi royal family, has been conspicuously timid. In an interview Thursday with "Fox & Friends," he described relations with the Saudi kingdom as "excellent."

In Congress, calls grow for sanctions against the Saudi regime, as well as a halt to U.S. arms sales to Riyadh. Trump bristled at that idea. "What good would it do us?" he said.

Well, Mr. President, it would send a clear message to the Saudis that business as usual isn't going to happen with a regime that silences its critics in violent, gruesome ways. Maybe Trump the businessman should look for inspiration from other U.S. and Western business leaders, who in reaction to what happened to Khashoggi are rethinking ties with the Saudis. Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi pulled out of an upcoming government-sponsored investor conference in Riyadh, The Wall Street Journal reports. Viacom's CEO, The New York Times and The Economist also pulled out. One invitee who still plans to attend: Trump's treasury secre-

See KHASHOGGI'S on Next Page

Wikipedia mirrors the world's biases. It doesn't cause them

By KATHERINE MAHER
Los Angeles Times

Katherine Maher is executive director of the Wikimedia Foundation, the nonprofit that owns and operates Wikipedia.

When Donna Strickland won the Nobel Prize this month, she became only the third woman in history to receive the award in physics. An optical physicist at the University of Waterloo, Strickland is brilliant, accomplished and inspiring. To use Wikipedia parlance, she is very clearly notable.

Except that, somehow, she wasn't. Despite her groundbreaking research on a method of generating laser beams with ultrashort pulses, Strickland did not have a Wikipedia page until shortly after her Nobel win.

Perhaps more disconcerting, a volunteer Wikipedia editor had drafted a page about Strickland in March only to have it declined in May. The reason: There wasn't enough coverage of Strickland's work in independent secondary sources to establish her notability. Her achievements simply weren't documented in enough news articles that Wikipedia editors could cite.

Before Wikipedia points a finger that might rightly be pointed back at us, let me acknowledge that Wikipedia's shortcomings are absolutely real. Our contributors are majority Western and mostly male, and these gatekeepers apply their own judgment and prejudices. As a result, Wikipedia has dozens of articles about battleships and not nearly enough on poetry. We've got comprehensive coverage on college football but significantly less on African marathoners.

At the same time, Wikipedia is by design a living, breathing thing—a collection of knowledge that many sources, in aggregate, say is worth knowing. It is therefore a reflection of the world's biases more than it is a cause of them.

We are working to correct biases in Wikipedia's coverage. For instance, in 2014, Wikipedia editors evaluated all the biographies on English Wikipedia and found that only about 15 percent of them were about women. To rectify the imbalance, groups of volunteers, including the WikiProject Women Scientists and WikiProject Women in Red, have been identifying women who should have pages and creating articles about them.

Today, 17.82 percent of our biographies are about women. This near 3 percent jump may not sound like much, but it represents 86,182 new articles. That works out to 72 new articles a day, every single day, for the past three and a half years.

But signs of bias pop up in different ways. A 2015 study found that, on English Wikipedia, the word "divorced" appears more than four times as often in biographies of women than in biographies of men. We don't fully know why, but it's likely a multitude of factors, including the widespread tendency throughout history to describe the lives of women through their relationships with men.

Technology can help identify such problems. Wikipedia articles about health get close attention from our community of medical editors, but for years, some articles on critical women's health issues, such as breastfeeding, languished under a "low importance" categorization. An algorithm identified this mistake.

But there is only so much Wikipedia itself can do. To fix Wikipedia's gender imbalance, we need our contributors and editors to pay more attention to the accomplishments of women. This is true across all under-represented groups: people of color, people with disabilities, LGBTQ people, indigenous communities.

Although we don't believe that only women editors should write pages about other women, or writers of color about people of color, we do think that a broader base of contributors and editors—one that included more women and people of color, among others—would naturally help broaden our content.

Wikipedia is founded on the concept that every individual should be able to share freely in the sum of all knowledge. We believe in "knowledge equity," which we define as the idea that diverse forms of knowledge should be recognized and respected. Wikipedia is not limited to what fits into a set of encyclopedias.

We also need other fields to identify and document diverse talent. If journalists, book publishers, scientific researchers, curators, academics, grant-makers and prize-awarding committees don't recognize the work of women, Wikipedia's editors have little foundation on which to build.

Increasingly, Wikipedia's content and any biases therein have ramifications beyond our own website. For instance, Wikipedia is now relied upon as a major source in the training of powerful artificial intelligence models, including models that underlie common technologies we all use.

In such training processes, computers ingest large data sets, draw inferences from patterns in the data and then generate predictions. As is well understood in the programming world, bad or incomplete data generate biased outcomes. This phenomenon is known by the acronym GIGO: garbage in, garbage out.

People may intuitively understand that Wikipedia is a perennial work in progress. Computers, on the other hand, simply process the data they're given. If women account for only 17.82 percent of the data, we may find ourselves with software that thinks women are only 17.82 percent of what matters in the world.

It is true that Wikipedia has a problem if Donna Strickland,

See WIKIPEDIA on Next Page

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Mixed signals

By SCOTT MARTELLE
Los Angeles Times

President Donald Trump mouthed some of the right words Thursday when he said it appears that dissident Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi had probably been murdered and that the consequences would be "very severe" if blame is firmly tied to the Saudi government. But, hours later at a campaign rally, he praised Montana Rep. Greg Gianforte, who won a special election last year despite body-slamming a Guardian journalist to the ground—an act for which Gianforte later pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor assault charge.

"By the way, never wrestle him," Trump said to laughter from the crowd. "Any guy who can do a body slam ... he's my guy."

Remember, this is the same Trump who has described some U.S. media—the ones reporting stories he doesn't like—as "enemies of the people," routinely makes cordoned-off press pools targets of his supporters' wrath during campaign appearances, and has supported some of the most illiberal and repressive authoritarian heads of state around the world, from the Saudi royal family to Filipino President Rodrigo Duterte to Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who at last count had imprisoned 237 journalists.

The Committee to Protect Journalists reports that at least 44 journalists have been murdered for doing their jobs so far this year; Khashoggi would be the 45th. That list includes four American journalists—staffers of the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Md., who were shot to death when a gunman opened fire on their office in June. A fifth newspaper employee, a sales assistant, also died.

Over the past decade, the committee reports, worldwide at least 632 journalists have been killed in connection with their work.

And our president makes light over a physical attack by a politician against a working journalist. That's dangerous territory.

When the ostensible leader of the free world openly targets journalists with his words, and gives wink-and-nod approval for physical attacks against them, he gives cover to the despots of the world.

You have to wonder whether that's his intent.

By ANGEL A. DEMAPAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rep. Angel A. Demapan is a member of the 20th CNMI Legislature's House of Representatives and is chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means. He is the Republican candidate for U.S. delegate in the general election.

Setting the record straight

Democracy works best when people know their options and people can distinguish facts versus hearsay. The U.S. Delegate Debate was held on Thursday, September 20, 2018 and was sponsored by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Marianas College. The debate provided our people with the opportunity to know more about the candidates vying for the CNMI's U.S. Delegate position in the upcoming General Election.

I would like to take this time to correct several misleading and false statements made by Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan at the debate.

First, Kilili falsely accused me of being in Cleveland for the 2016 Republican National Convention and lied that I voted for President Trump to be the GOP nominee. However, although I was elected as one of the delegates, I did not go on the trip to Cleveland nor did I attend the convention. Therefore, I was replaced with an alternate delegate and I no longer had a vote to cast.

Second, Kilili falsely accused me of voting to legalize casino gaming on Saipan. However, Kilili failed to check his facts because I was not a member of the 18th Commonwealth Legislature that voted on the bill. In fact, I was employed as the governor's press secretary and, as we all know, press secretaries have no vote in the Legislature.

Third, Kilili falsely accused me of being in the White House when President Bush signed the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument on Ja. 6, 2009. However, I was not employed by the Office of the Governor in 2009. In fact, I was living in Honolulu managing the Marianas Hawaii Medical Referral Office. Unfortunately, there is no correlation between the monument designation to my job of taking care of our patients from the Marianas who were undergoing medical treatment in Honolulu.

The truth of the matter is I have never been into the White House—the actual building occupied by the President of the United States. Kilili tried to further mislead our people by circulating a photo of me standing outside the White House gate and implying that I did go into the White House. Unfortunately, contrary to his imagination, I did not. The closest I've been to the White House is attending a meeting in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building with the CNMI 902 Team to fight for our rights pursuant to our Covenant with the United States.

The official White House website describes the Eisenhower Building as follows, "Next door to the White House, the Eisenhower Executive Office Building commands a unique position in both our national history and architectural heritage."

So what is Delegate Kilili trying to accomplish by spreading lies and misleading information to the public? His actions are unbecoming of a statesman and more so, unbecoming of anyone who wants to be a decent human being.

Delegate Kilili preached about "trust" at the debate. And so I ask, now knowing that he blatantly lied in public, not once, not twice, but three consecutive times in one event, is this somebody we can trust? Who do you trust? *Hayi un honggi?*

I am a candidate for U.S. delegate running for office because many people have lost trust and confidence in our representation in Washington. And after ours debate, I can understand why so many people in our community feel this way.

These are the facts. I owe it to our people to set the record straight. Our people deserve to know the truth. And as my late father and mother always told me before they passed away, "The truth always prevails, son."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Kannat Tabla road, finally!

Your paper of Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, published a worthy news article titled "DPW to begin $2.79M construction on Kannat Tabla road." I personally believe that such magnitude of undertaking and effective collaborations between the CNMI and the federal government is a clear testament of the right people and at the right time working in unison to produce positive actions that ultimately resulted in the improvement of our citizens' livelihood, safety, and conveniences.

I join my fellow residents and visitors of Kannat Tabla in welcoming such wonderful news. I will be remiss if I do not share a moment when Gov. Ralph Torres met with some residents of Kannat Tabla after Typhoon Soudelor to hear what his administration can do to fix the perennial road problem. The result of such meeting, his genuine compassion for our people, and strong determination to the fix the problem assures residents of having relief in sight. Finally, the Kannat Tabla Road is getting the dose of treatment it needs to serve the residents and visitors alike.

In closing, on behalf of our residents and visitors of Kannat Tabla, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, his Leadership team, and members of the CNMI Legislature, specifically Reps. Larry I. Deleon Guerrero and Frank C. Aguon. Last but not least, the Federal Emergency Management Agency for providing the needed financial assistance. You all deserve our deepest gratitude.

Frank Cepeda Deleon Guerrero
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

WIKIPEDIA

From Page 10

an accomplished physicist, is considered worthy of a page only when she receives the highest possible recognition in her field. But this problem reflects a far more consequential and intractable problem in the real world.

Wikipedia would like to encourage other knowledge-generating institutions to join us in our efforts to balance this inequity. We may not be able to change how society values women, but we can change how women are seen, and ensure that they are seen to begin with. That's a start.

By GREGORIO KILILI C. SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is the incumbent delegate of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and a candidate for re-election in the November general election.

Hayi un hongi?

Nothing shows the choice for voters on Nov. 6 better than Medicaid.

This federal program delivers healthcare to 15,000 people in the Marianas with incomes below the federal poverty line.

But Medicaid is important to everyone. Medicaid is 28 percent of Commonwealth Health Center revenues. And without those revenues our only hospital would close its doors and everyone would suffer—rich and poor.

My record on Medicaid is clear:

I got our base Medicaid grant increased by 30 percent—$6.7 million this year. I got our local matching requirement cut by 10 percent. So, we now have a better federal/local share than 19 states.

And I got $109 million in supplemental funding for Medicaid in the 2010 Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, Public Law 111-152. That money kept the hospital open, just when the Fitial administration decided to "privatize" it and stop funding.

Altogether, those changes in the law brought us over $163 million in Medicaid funding over the last nine years.

By contrast, my opponent has a history of short-changing Medicaid.

As chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, he failed to budget the local match for Medicaid year after year. He brags about passing the "biggest budget ever." But he short-changed the hospital $700,000 in base Medicaid and over $11 million in supplemental.

In fact, the Legislature short-changed the hospital $69 million over the last seven years.

So, here is the choice for the 15,000 people in the Marianas who depend on Medicaid—and for everyone who uses our hospital.

I put money into the program—over $163 million. He failed to pay his bills.

Who do you trust to keep Medicaid funded in the next Congress?

Hayi un hongi?

KHASHOGGI'S

From Page 10

tary, Steven Mnuchin.

Prince Mohammed may be miffed at the Western world's recoiling, but he shouldn't be surprised. Western CEOs and investors are right to think twice about doing business with a government that wants and needs strong ties with the West yet increasingly looks and acts like other, brutish regimes now branded as pariahs. If the crown prince wants the West's seal of approval, he should come clean about the fate of Jamal Khashoggi.

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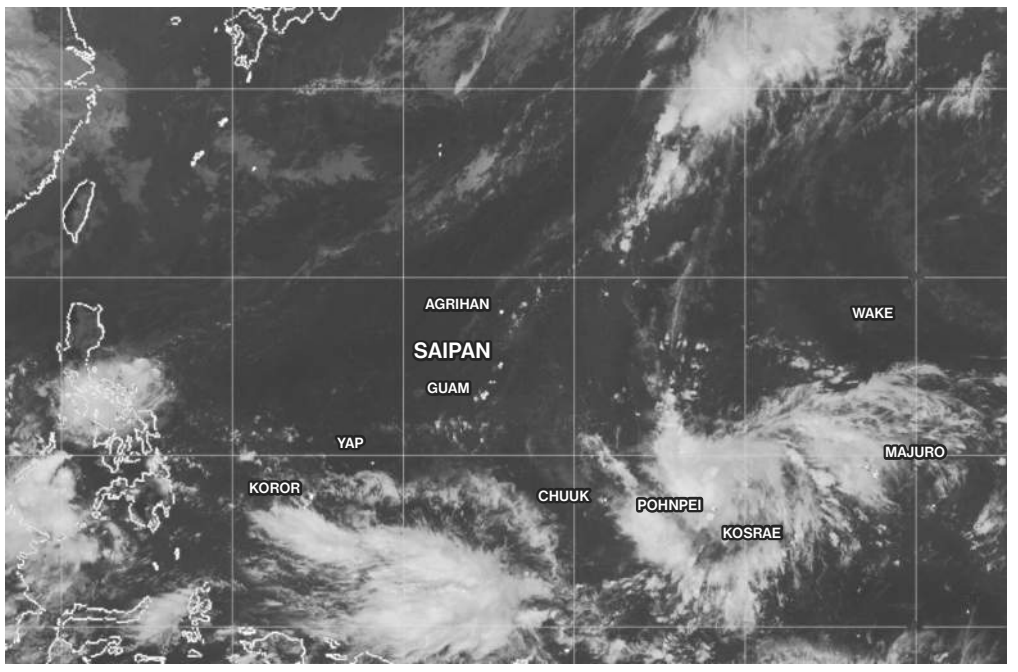
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:29 AM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface circulation could be found south of Guam this morning. Models keep the circulation weak as it drifts westward...eventually being located southwest of Guam tonight. A 24 hour loop of satellite imagery showed hardly any showers associated with the circulation and this agrees with models. Even when the circulation moves out of the area little will change an only expect through the coming week. East to southeast winds will prevail through at least Tuesday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	68° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	66° / 39°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	82° / 73°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	85° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	57° / 45°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	81° / 62°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	63° / 46°
Miami	Showers	82° / 77°
New York	Mostly Sunny	54° / 45°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	68° / 55°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	64° / 43°
Busan	Sunny	68° / 52°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	72° / 52°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	68° / 55°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	61° / 53°
Seoul	Rain	63° / 45°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	70° / 57°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	57° / 44°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET
12:15 AM	LOW TIDE	0.62
5:49 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.66
12:09 PM	LOW TIDE	0.39
6:20 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.90

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Tuesday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:50 AM	4:24 PM
Tuesday	-	4:39 AM	5:04 PM
Wednesday	-	5:30 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	-	6:23 AM	6:28 PM
Friday	-	7:17 AM	7:14 PM

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

‘Live Your Dream’ awardee wants women to be ‘doers’

Soroptimist International Northern Marianas Islands president Maureen Sebangiol, right, names Mercilyn Palec as the 2018 Live Your Dream awardee last Saturday at the Live Your Dream gala held at the Azucena Room of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan. BEA CABRERA

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Mercilyn Palec, a mother and breadwinner of her family, is this year’s Live Your Dream awardee.

Her life story was chosen out of 13 other women who submitted entries and received the $3,000 award last Saturday at the Live Your Dream Gala of Soroptimist International NMI at the Azucena Room of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

The cash intends to help recipients with a no-strings-attached cash award, improve their education and skills, and improved their employment prospects.

“I am humbled to be the awardee this year… I applied for this award last year but I did not submit my entry because it asks you to talk about your life’s challenges and that is something that I don’t like to do. I really like to be the optimistic one,” she said.

“When I decided to apply for this scholarship and talk about those challenges, I realized that that is the problem…that we don’t want to talk about problems…but we have to be doers, we have to get ourselves out there to be heard. The Live Your Dream award is such a great opportunity that women should try to give it a shot. I did and pulled through.”

Palec gave honor to her late grandmother, who played a significant role in her life. “Just recently, I lost my grandmother and she was a very big part of my life. We buried her last week and, at the same time, found out that I got this award. …My grandmother had to pave the way so her grandchildren can have this opportunity.”

“This is for the women in my family, my grandmother who had nine children, my mother who raised seven children who adopted three that were not her own, me included. For my daughter who I hope to raise to the best of my abilities and to support and encourage her to go for anything that she wants to pursue.”

Palec, who was also inducted as a new member of the Soroptimist International NMI, gave thanks to her sponsor, SINMI vice president Donna Krum. “My sponsor…has been heavily involved with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce as well as an active mentor of the Saipan Young Professionals. She is the most optimistic person and life loving individual I’ve ever met in my entire life,” she said.

“One of the many life lessons that I learned from Donna is that she constantly teaches action—to show up and play nice because, through that, you can observe, listen, and learn. As long as you devote yourself to learning constantly, you will progress in life.”

Soroptimist International NMI president Maureen Sebangiol said the Live Your Dream program is a signature for every Soroptimist Club worldwide. The award gives a cash award to a woman who is pursuing an undergraduate or training degree, is financial head of her household and has a need for funds to allow her to continue and pursue her educational dreams. In 2017, there were over $2 million awarded worldwide.

“With this we hope to push women to live their dreams and never give up,” Sebangiol said.

Tinian senatorial candidate to go to trial

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Tinian senatorial candidate who was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol has been given an official trial date.

Tinian senatorial candidate Eric Henry Cruz San Nicolas, who pleaded not guilty to driving under the influence of alcohol back in August, has been given an official bench trial date.

The Superior Court has set San Nicolas’ bench trial for Dec. 20, 2018, at 1:30pm.

San Nicolas is adamant about fighting the citation in court because he claims the DUI allegations against him are false.

Aside from a DUI charge, San Nicolas was also charged with reckless driving, failure to undergo a breathalyzer test, and license violations.

San Nicolas is among four other Tinian independent candidates who submitted petitions for nomination for Senate and House of Representatives seats.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, San Nicolas used to serve as vice principal for Tinian High School before he became a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board member, and is now running for a senatorial seat for the Tinian district.

In a previous article, Department of Public Safety spokesperson Jacqueline Rae stated that a woman called the department back in July 28 about a theft incident involving San Nicolas but when officers arrived at the scene, San Nicolas was not there. Rae said San Nicolas returned a short time later and returned the items to the woman.

Rae said police officers, however, cited San Nicolas with DUI at that time.

Rae said the incident happened in Koblerville at 1:23am.

Important Legal Notice from the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

If you are a current or former owner or lessee of certain Ford, Lincoln, and Mercury vehicles, you could get cash and other benefits from a class action settlement.

Si desea recibir esta notificación en español, llámenos o visite nuestra página web.

A settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit alleging that consumers sustained economic losses because they purchased or leased vehicles from Ford Motor Company containing allegedly defective airbags manufactured by Takata Corporation and its affiliates. The Settlement includes certain vehicles made by Ford (the “Subject Vehicles”). Ford denies any and all allegations of wrongdoing and the Court has not decided who is right.

If you have already received a separate recall notice for your Ford vehicle and have not yet had your Takata airbag repaired, you should do so as soon as possible. When recalled Takata airbags deploy, they may spray metal debris toward vehicle occupants and may cause serious injury. However, many Ford vehicles affected by this settlement have not been recalled. Please see www.AirBagRecall.com for further details about whether your vehicle is recalled and, if so, what you should do.

Am I included in the proposed Settlement? The Settlement includes the following persons and entities:

- Owners or lessees, as of September 5, 2018, of a Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, and
- Former owners or lessees of a Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, who, between June 19, 2014 and September 5, 2018, sold or returned pursuant to a lease, a Subject Vehicle that was recalled before September 5, 2018.

A full list of the Subject Vehicles can be found at www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com. The Settlement does not involve claims of personal injury.

What does the Settlement provide? Ford has agreed to a Settlement with a value of approximately $299.1 million, including a 20% credit for the Enhanced Rental Car/Loaner Program. The Settlement Funds will be used to pay for Settlement benefits and cover the costs of the Settlement over an approximately four-year period.

The Settlement offers several benefits for Class Members, including (1) payments for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred related to a Takata airbag recall of a Subject Vehicle, (2) a Rental Car/Loaner Program while certain Subject Vehicles are awaiting repair, (3) an Outreach Program to maximize completion of the recall remedy, (4) additional cash payments to Class Members from residual settlement funds, if any remain, and (5) a Customer Support Program to help with repairs associated with affected Takata airbag inflators and their replacements. The Settlement website explains each of these benefits in detail.

How can I get a Payment? You must file a claim to receive a payment during the first four years of the Settlement. If you still own or lease a Subject Vehicle, you must also bring it to an authorized dealership for the recall remedy, as directed by a recall notice, if you have not already done so. Visit the website and file a claim online or download one and file by mail. The deadline to file a claim will be at least one year from the date the Settlement is finalized and will be posted on the website when it’s known.

What are my other options? If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **November 26, 2018**. If you do not exclude yourself, you will release any claims you may have against Ford, in exchange for certain settlement benefits. The potential available benefits are more fully described in the Settlement, available at the settlement website. You may object to the Settlement by **November 26, 2018**. You cannot both exclude yourself from, and object to, the Settlement. The Long Form Notice for the Settlement available on the website listed below explains how to exclude yourself or object. The Court will hold a fairness hearing on **December 11, 2018** to consider whether to finally approve the Settlement and a request for attorneys’ fees of up to 25% of the total Settlement Amount and incentive awards of $5,000 for each of the Class Representatives. You may appear at the fairness hearing, either by yourself or through an attorney hired by you, but you don’t have to. For more information, including the relief, eligibility and release of claims, in English or Spanish, call or visit the website below.

1-888-735-5596 • www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com

4th Marianas Ukulele Festival

Jon Paul and Jason Sablan perform their rendition of the late-'70s hit *Hotel California* during the 4th Annual Marianas Ukulele Festival.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Festival-goers gather around the ukulele scholarship raffle registration.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Other Micronesian cultural items were also highlighted.

ERWIN ENCINARES

One of the stall-owners weave a hat out of coconut leaves.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Organizers of the festival, Marianas Ukulele Festival Association chair Larry Lee, right, and the organization's vice chair Gordon Marciano, pose for a photo.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Early-bird festival goers enjoying the live music and food.

ERWIN ENCINARES

As with any other festival in the Marianas, food is always highlighted.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Students enjoy playing on their ukuleles during the festival.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Barbecue is grilled on the spot for festival-goers.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Arts and crafts are a mainstay for the 4-year old festival.

ERWIN ENCINARES

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at FDM, W-517, former golf course, Andersen south

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

■ Oct. 22-23 from 11am to 10pm

■ Oct. 26 from 9am to 8pm

The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 during the following dates and times:

■ Oct. 22 from 1-7pm

■ Oct. 23 from 3:30-10pm

■ The U.S. military will also conduct training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada and Andersen south in Yigo during the following dates and times:

■ Oct. 22 from 3-10pm

■ Oct. 24 from 6:30-10pm

■ Oct. 25 from 6-9:30pm

It is recommended the general public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training.

The public should be advised that routine helicopter training often accompanied with the use of blanks can occur throughout the week in areas of the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course and Andersen South. ***(PR)***

Scheduled power outages

There will be scheduled power interruptions on Oct. 23 that will affect Industrial Drive in Lower Base. It will also affect the Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Puerto Rico. No water well service area will be affected but the wastewater service area in Sadog Tasi and Puerto Rico will be affected. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282. ***(PR)***

Deadline to comment on OVR policy reset

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and the State Rehabilitation Council would like to announce that the deadline for submission of public comments on OVR's revisions to its Supported Employment Policy has been extended to Oct. 31, 2018. If you have any questions contact Josephine Tudela at jo@ovrgov.net or at 670-322-6537/8. ***(PR)***

Andersen Air Force Base sets annual exercise

Andersen Air Force Base is scheduled to conduct an Operational Readiness Exercise from Nov. 5 to Nov. 8. This exercise satisfies an annual requirement in accordance with Air Force Installation Mission Assurance Exercise Requirements to maintain operational readiness and is not focused on any specific threat.

Expect increased noise and activity to include sound effects, messages from loud speakers, sirens and noise from alert vehicles. Visual effects such as smoke may also be visible. ***(PR)***

Library closed on Oct. 27

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on Oct. 27, in lieu of the 4th Annual Friends of the Library Golf Tournament. If interested in participating in the tournament or for more information, call the library at 235-READ. ***(PR)***

UOG association to host senatorial forum

The University of Guam Political Science Student Association will be hosting a 2018 Senatorial Forum Series. The forum series will feature Democrat and Republican candidates running for a seat in the 35th Guam Legislature. The forums will take place on Oct. 23, 24, and 25, from 5pm to 7pm at the University of Guam CLASS Lecture Hall.

The topics that will be addressed in this forum are economic development, political status, environmental sustainability, and UOG related issues. The audience will also have an opportunity to ask the candidates questions. ***(PR)***

MVA membership meeting on Nov. 9

The Marianas Visitors Authority will hold its semi-annual general membership meeting on Nov. 9, 2018, at Royal Taga Ballroom, Saipan World Resort at 10am. Registration will begin at 9:30am.

Guest speakers will be from the MVA's offshore offices and will provide a recap of fiscal year 2017 projects and the MVA's marketing plans for fiscal year 2019. Speakers will be the in-country managers: Irene Lee, Korea market; Florence Shi, China market; and Takashi Ichikura, Japan market.

The meeting cost is $16 per person for MVA members and $20 per person for non-members. The cost includes light refreshments and lunch. RSVP should be made by Nov. 1, 2018.

To RSVP, to request a membership application, or for more information, contact the MVA Community Projects Division at communityprojects@mymarianas.com or call (670) 664-3200. ***(MVA)***

Upcoming events at JKPL

■ Great Stories Club: This is a free book club for teens ages 13-18. We meet twice a month, and each month we discuss a different book. At the end of the club, participants will be able to keep the book! Sign up online (https://goo.gl/forms/P4jmBQbWC-Qpc4EBJ3) and join us for a time of food, fun, and books! The next book club will meet in December.

■ Motheread/Fatheread 20th Anniversary breakout sessions: Join us on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 9am to 12pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library as we celebrate 20 years of increasing literacy in the CNMI. We will have breakout sessions that participants can visit as well as information on the Motheread/Fatheread literacy program.

■ Trunk or Treat: If you have not participated in or visited this event, do so this year for our 7th annual event. It will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 31, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm in the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library parking lot. To participate or for more information, visit our website at cnmilib.org or contact Omar Manacop or Rose Ulloa at (670) 235-7329/7323.

■ Golf Tournament: Enjoy golfing or know anyone who does? Then the 4th Annual Golf Tournament is perfect for you. To participate, buy a ticket at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. This event takes place on Saturday, Oct. 27. All proceeds benefit the library, its resource and collection development, and library programs. For more information, visit cnmilib.org.

Join teen advisory board

Attention all teens! Do you have ideas for programs and events at the library and want to help implement them? Do you want to influence the Young Adult collection at the library? Do you want to meet new people?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you are welcome to join the free Joeten-Kiyu Public Library teen advisory board. TAB members will meet regularly each month to socialize, brainstorm ideas, and eat snacks! Teens going into grades 7th-12th are invited to submit an application to join the TAB.

For more information or to ask questions, call the library at 235-READ and ask for Emily, or email her at emily.jkpl@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

INVESTIGATOR V

Opening Date: 10/10/18 Closing Date: 10/25/18
POSITION: Investigator V EXAMINATION NO. OPA-18-002

For more information, please visit our website at www.opacnmi.com or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Gualo Rai. Completed Office of the Public Auditor (OPA) employment application form and pertinent documents must be submitted at OPA.

Office of the Public Auditor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Website: http://opacnmi.com
1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Email: mail@opacnmi.com
Phone: (670) 322-6481

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP19-CHCC/BUSINESS OFFICE-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 21, 2018 TIME: 9:00AM

"PATIENT REGISTRATION FURNISHING, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

MANDATORY PRE-SUBMISSION ON-SITE ASSESSMENT

A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 25, 2018 AT 9:00AM. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND TO VIEW THE SPACE AND MAY TAKE MEASUREMENTS AND ASK ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ALMA MORALES Petitioner, vs. REYNALDO MORALES Respondent.) FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0228) **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after services of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505322 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 3rd day of October, 2018
/s/
Clerk of Court

CNMI SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. (670) 664-4750

BOARD MEETING PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Scholarship Board of Directors is hereby giving notice that it will hold its 1st quarter regular board meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 2:30 pm on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CNMI Scholarship Office Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes
V. Old Business
  a. MR WORKS
VI. New Business
  a. AY2018/2019 Programs
  b. AY2018/19 Award Amount
  c. Election of Vacant Officers
VII. Executive Session
VIII. CSO Administrator's Updates
IX. Announcements & Next Meeting
X. Adjournment

/s/ Reyna M. Saures, Interim Chairwoman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Tuesday, December 04, 2018
TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2019-002

Rehabilitation of the Tinian Youth Center

Project package will be available on **October 22, 2018,** at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or the Tinian Field Office in San Jose, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of one-hundred ($100.00) is required for the project package. Payment must be by cash, credit card, cashier's check or certified check made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented in order to obtain the project package.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held at **10:00 a.m.** on November 02, 2018, at the project site in San Jose (Tinian Youth Center Building), Tinian. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/7689; (670)483-9447; or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Benjamin K. Petersburg
Acting Chairman,
NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Thursday, November 29, 2018
TIME: 09:30 AM

NMHC IFB 2019-001

Rehabilitation and Expansion of the Kagman Community Center

Project package will be available on **October 22, 2018,** at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of one-hundred ($100.00) is required for the project package. Payment must be by cash, credit card, cashier's check or certified check made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented in order to obtain the project package.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held at **9:00 a.m.** on November 13, 2018, at the project site in Kagman (Kagman Community Center). Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/7689; (670)483-9447; or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Benjamin K. Petersburg
Acting Chairman,
NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Business

Most UK firms to trigger Brexit safety plans 'by Christmas'

LONDON (AP)—The vast majority of British firms are poised to implement their Brexit contingency plans by Christmas if there isn't greater clarity over the country's exit from the European Union, a leading business lobby group warned Sunday.

The Confederation of British Industry said these could include cutting jobs, adjusting supply chains outside the U.K., stockpiling goods, and relocating production and services overseas.

The warning comes amid growing fears that Britain may crash out of the EU in March without a deal on the future relationship. That could see tariffs placed on British exports, border checks reinstalled, and restrictions imposed travelers and workers — a potentially toxic combination for businesses.

"The situation is now urgent," said Carolyn Fairbairn, the CBI's director general. "The speed of negotiations is being outpaced by the reality firms are facing on the ground."

Discussions between the two sides have hit an impasse largely over how to maintain an open border between EU member Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom.

A summit of EU leaders last week failed to yield a breakthrough and another gathering in November was cancelled. December is now the next scheduled summit, leaving the Brexit process tight ahead of Britain's official departure date. Even if a deal is forged, there are doubts over British Prime Minister Theresa May' ability to secure the necessary majority in Parliament given bitter divisions on the topic.

"Unless a Withdrawal Agreement is locked down by December, firms will press the button on their contingency plans," said Fairbairn. "Jobs will be lost and supply chains moved."

Fairbairn's warning was based on a survey of 236 member firms tilted toward small and medium-sized companies with up to 500 employees, undertaken from Sept. 19 to Oct. 8. The survey found that 82 percent of firms will have started to implement contingency plans by December if the Brexit process isn't any clearer.

The CBI also said that 80 percent of firms say Brexit has already had a negative impact on their investment decisions, more than double the 36 percent recorded a year ago. The survey found that 66 percent of businesses said Brexit has had an impact on the attractiveness of the U.K. as a place to invest, while 24 percent said there had been no impact.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Minnesota frozen food company recalls pork, chicken products

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Authorities say a Minnesota frozen food and packing company is recalling more than 212,000 pounds of ready-to-eat pork and chicken products that contain vegetables that might be contaminated with salmonella and listeria. The Agriculture Department said in a release issued Friday that Buddy's Kitchen Inc. of Burnsville produced the products between Oct 19, 2017, and Oct. 9, 2018. The items were shipped to Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri and New Jersey. They have the number "P-4226" inside the USDA mark of inspection. The problem was discovered by Buddy's vegetable supplier. The USDA says no adverse reactions to the products have been reported. Consumers are urged not to eat the products. Salmonella can cause abdominal cramps and fever. Listeria can cause fever, muscle aches, headache, stiff neck, confusion loss of balance and convulsions.

Chinese broadens its propaganda drive to heartland America

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—China's propaganda machine has taken aim at American soybean farmers as part of its high-stakes trade war with the Trump administration. The publication last month of a four-page advertising section in the Des Moines Register opened a new battle line in China's effort to break the administration's resolve. U.S. farmers are a key political constituency for Trump, and Beijing has imposed tariffs on American soybeans as retaliation for Trump's tariffs on hundreds of billions in Chinese imports. China regularly disseminates propaganda in the West through its China Daily newspaper to try to influence public opinion. But the advertorial in the Register was unusual for deploying not a national publication in New York or Washington but a newspaper in the farm state of Iowa. "It's the first time I've ever seen anything like this in a heartland city," said Matt Schrader, who edits the China Brief newsletter for the Jamestown Foundation, a Washington research institute that monitors China's actions.

Indiana man allegedly stole trailers filled with soybeans

WINCHESTER, Ind. (AP)—Eastern Indiana police say a man allegedly stole a semi and two trailers loaded with soybeans and then sold the grain for about $17,000. The Randolph County Sheriff's Department says the 55-year-old man was arrested Friday. The Star Press reports the man hasn't been formally charged, but faces preliminary charges that include theft in excess of $50,000. Capt. Tom Pullins says the man allegedly stole a semi-tractor trailer loaded with soybeans from a Randolph County farmer in June. He says surveillance video shows the same stolen semi was used to steal another soybean-filled trailer from a Randolph County business in September. Pullins says the suspect later told the soybeans for about $17,000. The second trailer has been located, but the tractor and trailer stolen in June remain missing.

Florida's open for business, tourism agency says

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)—Visit Florida is launching a $9 million marketing plan to show that much of the state is open for business following Hurricane Michael. The Orlando Sentinel reports the taxpayer-funded tourism agency's executive committee voted Friday to support a plan that includes highlighting what has reopened in areas hit by the deadly Oct. 10 storm in Northwest Florida. The plan also seeks to call attention to other areas of the Panhandle, such as Pensacola, that were largely unscathed. The marketing effort will feature domestic and international ads along with heavy use of videos on social-media sites. It's seen as a continuation of ongoing work to address concerns of potential tourists about algae and red-tide problems in waterways in Southeast and Southwest Florida this year.

Nation

Trump: US will pull out of intermediate range nuke pact

ELKO, Nevada (AP)—President Donald Trump said Saturday he will exit a landmark arms control agreement the United States signed with the former Soviet Union, saying that Russia is violating the pact and it's preventing the U.S. from developing new weapons.

AP

President Donald Trump pauses as he speaks to media after a campaign rally before boarding Air Force One at Elko Regional Airport, Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018, in Elko, Nev., en route to Washington.

The 1987 pact, which helps protect the security of the U.S. and its allies in Europe and the Far East, prohibits the United States and Russia from possessing, producing or test-flying a ground-launched cruise missile with a range of 300 to 3,400 miles.

"Russia has violated the agreement. They have been violating it for many years," Trump said after a rally in Elko, Nevada. "And we're not going to let them violate a nuclear agreement and go out and do weapons and we're not allowed to."

The agreement has constrained the U.S. from developing new weapons, but America will begin developing them unless Russia and China agree not to possess or develop the weapons, Trump said. China is not currently party to the pact.

"We'll have to develop those weapons, unless Russia comes to us and China comes to us and they all come to us and say let's really get smart and let's none of us develop those weapons, but if Russia's doing it and if China's doing it, and we're adhering to the agreement, that's unacceptable," he said.

National Security Adviser John Bolton was headed Saturday to Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia. His first stop is Moscow, where he'll meet with Russian leaders, including Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev. His visit comes at a time when Moscow-Washington relations also remain frosty over the Ukrainian crisis, the war in Syria and allegations of Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential race and upcoming U.S. midterm elections.

There was no immediate comment from the Kremlin or the Russian Foreign Ministry on Trump's announcement.

Trump didn't provide details about violations, but in 2017, White House national security officials said Russia had deployed a cruise missile in violation of the treaty. Earlier, the Obama administration accused the Russians of violating the pact by developing and testing a prohibited cruise missile. Russia has repeatedly denied that it has violated the treaty and has accused the United States of not being in compliance.

Defense Secretary James Mattis has previously suggested that a Trump administration proposal to add a sea-launched cruise missile to America's nuclear arsenal could provide the U.S. with leverage to try to convince Russia to come back in line on the arms treaty.

Candles, flashlights, no AC in Florida's hurricane zone

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP)—It's the greatest need after a hurricane and sometimes the hardest one to fulfill: Electricity.

More than a week after Hurricane Michael smashed into the Florida Panhandle on a path of destruction that led all the way to the Georgia border, more than 100,000 Florida customers were still without power, according to the state Department of Emergency Management website.

Martha Reynolds sat outside her mother's sweltering home Friday with relatives, including several young children, in a low-income Panama City neighborhood. The electricity has been off since the day Michael struck.

Candles and flashlights provide light after dark, she said, and they crank up a generator at night to power an air conditioner that cools four adults and five kids.

"We try to eat off the grill and keep as much ice as we can," she said. "We're all looking at each other, we're all here, so that's a blessing."

A few streets over, Justin Ward's family gathered under a canopy set up under a shady tree in front of their hot, powerless home.

"We're making it. The power is on one street over. It's supposed to be on here tomorrow," he said.

While more than half the outages are in Bay County, where the storm came in between coastal Mexico Beach and Panama City, rural counties had a greater percentage of people without power eight days after the storm. That includes Calhoun County, where 86 percent of customers of the local electric cooperative had no electricity.

"We're trying to make sure they understand how widespread the damage was and that we're leveraging every resource that we possibly can to get it on as quickly as we can," said Jeff Rogers, a spokesman for Gulf Power, which serves most of Bay County and seven other counties in the region. It doesn't serve Calhoun. "This was an unprecedented storm."

And it's not an easy problem to solve quickly. In Bay County alone, thousands of utility poles were blown down or snapped in half like toothpicks. Power lines drooped over roadways or were tossed to the ground like piles of spaghetti.

Many transmission line towers—the enormous metal structures that bring electricity to substations that then route it into specific neighborhoods—were left in twisted piles or knocked to the ground.

Asia

Violence, confusion surround Afghan parliamentary elections

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan's first parliamentary elections in eight years suffered from violence and chaos Saturday, with a multitude of attacks killing at least 36 people, key election workers failing to show up and many polling stations staying open hours later than scheduled to handle long lines of voters.

Problems surrounding the elections—already three years overdue—threaten to compromise the credibility of polls which an independent monitoring group said were also marred by incidences of ballot stuffing and intimidation by armed men affiliated with candidates in 19 of the country's 32 provinces. Some areas have yet to vote, including Kandahar, where the provincial police chief was gunned down Thursday.

Stakes were high in these elections for Afghans who hoped to reform Parliament, challenging the dominance of warlords and the politically corrupt and replacing them with a younger, more educated generation of politicians. They were also high for the U.S., which is still seeking an exit strategy after 17 years of a war there that has cost more than $900 billion and claimed more than 2,400 U.S. service personnel.

Voters turned out in large numbers in Lashkar Gah, the capital city of Helmand province, to vote in the Afghan parliamentary elections on Saturday. (Oct. 20)

Deputy Interior Minister Akhtar Mohammed Ibrahimi said 36 people were killed in 193 insurgent attacks across the country: 27 civilians, eight police officers and one Afghan soldier. He said attackers used everything from grenades to small arms fire to mortars and rocket launchers, and that security forces killed 31 insurgents.

The most serious attack on the polls was in a northern Kabul neighborhood where a suicide bomber blew himself up just as voting was about to end, killing three people and wounding another 20, many of them seriously, said Dr. Esa Hashemi, a physician at the nearby Afghan Hospital. Interior and defense ministry officials said 15 people were killed or wounded, including several police.

Polling stations also struggled with voter registration and a new biometric system that was aimed at stemming fraud, but instead created enormous confusion because many of those trained on the system did not show up for work. Also, the biometric machines were received just a month before polls and there was no time to do field testing.

Many polling stations opened as much as five hours behind schedule. The Independent Election Commission was uncertain how many of the estimated 21,000 polling stations closed by 4 p.m. local time, the original closing time. Polling was extended until 8 p.m. local time for all those polling stations that opened late, and those that could not open before 1 p.m. local time will open Sunday.

Afghanistan's deputy chief executive Mohammad Mohaqiq expressed outrage at the chaotic start to polling and assailed election preparation by the country's election commission.

"The people rushed like a flood to the polling stations, but the election commission employees were not present, and in some cases they were there but there were no electoral materials and in most cases the biometric systems was not working," he said.

"The widespread reports today of confusion and incompetence in the administration of the elections ... suggest that bureaucratic failures and lack of political will to prioritize organizing credible parliamentary elections may do more to delegitimize the election results than threats and violent attacks by the Taliban and Daesh," said Andrew Wilder, vice-president of Asia Programs at the U.S. Institute of Peace, using the Arabic acronym name for the Islamic State group.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani marked his ballot at the start of voting. In a televised speech afterward, he congratulated Afghans on another election and praised the security forces, particularly the air force, for getting ballots to Afghanistan's remotest corners.

"I thank you from the bottom of my heart," he said, also reminding those elected that they are there to serve the people and ensure the rule of law.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Ex-India state official: Most train victims migrant workers

NEW DELHI (AP)—Most of the casualties in a train disaster that killed dozens of people in northern India were migrant workers, a former state government official said Saturday. R.C. Yadav, former chairman of Punjab state's Workers Welfare Board, said that many of the 60 killed and dozens injured when a speeding train ran over a crowd celebrating the Hindu festival of Dussehra on Friday night had left their families in neighboring states to work in factories and shops in Punjab. Most "of those killed are these poor workers," Yadav said, adding that some earned as little as 7,000 rupees ($95) per month. A local branch of the Indian National Congress party had organized the event at a clearing near the railway tracks on the outskirts of Amritsar. Organizers erected a huge LED screen for the hundreds of people who gathered to watch the burning of the effigies of Ravana and other demons, said Yadav, who lives just a kilometer (half a mile) from the disaster site. As the fireworks started, the crowd moved backward onto the tracks for a better view when two trains crossed in opposite directions, giving people little opportunity to escape.

Australia's ruling coalition forced into minority government

SYDNEY (AP)—Australia's ruling coalition was forced into minority government on Saturday after a massive swing against its senior partner, the Liberal Party, in a by-election for the seat of the prime minister the party itself had dismissed. In a stinging backlash from the electorate after the fourth toppling of an Australian leader by internal party vote in just eight years, a swing of more than 20 percent against the sitting Liberals propelled independent candidate Kerryn Phelps to a decisive victory. The result cost the conservative Liberal-National party coalition its one-seat majority in the House of Representatives, forcing Prime Minister Scott Morrison to rely on deals with independent lawmakers to guarantee confidence in his government, enact legislation and ensure money supply. The next general election is due in seven months, and there was no immediate talk Saturday that it would be held any sooner.

World

Migrant caravan re-forms in Mexico

CIUDAD HIDALGO, Mexico (AP)—Despite Mexican efforts to stop them at the border, about 2,000 Central American migrants swam or rafted across a river separating that country from Guatemala, re-formed their mass caravan in Mexico and vowed to resume their journey toward the United States.

The migrants, who said they gave up trying to enter Mexico legally because the asylum application process was too slow, gathered on Saturday at a park in the border city of Ciudad Hidalgo. They voted by a show of hands to continue north en masse, then marched to the bridge crossing the Suchiate River and urged those still on it to come join them.

"We are going to reach the United States," said Erasmo Duarte, a migrant from Danli, Honduras, despite warnings to turn back this week from U.S. President Donald Trump, who has sought to make the caravan and border security in general into a campaign issue a little over two weeks before midterm elections.

The decision to re-form the migrant caravan capped a day in which Mexican authorities again refused mass entry to migrants on the bridge, instead accepting small groups for asylum processing and giving out 45-day visitor permits to some of them. Authorities handed out numbers for people to be processed in a strategy seen before at U.S. border posts when dealing with large numbers of migrants.

» Members vow to reach US

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met with President Enrique Pena Nieto in Mexico City Friday, where he said their conversation was focused on the mass caravan of Central American migrants hoping to reach the United States. (Oct. 19)

But many became impatient, and circumventing the border gate, swarmed across the river on rafts, swimming or wading in full view of the hundreds of Mexican police manning the blockade on the bridge. Some paid locals the equivalent of $1.25 to ferry them across the muddy waters. They were not detained on reaching the Mexican bank.

"We couldn't wait because we had already waited too long and they only told us lies," said Duarte, who joined the caravan with his wife and children six days ago.

Sairy Bueso, a 24-year old Honduran mother of two, was another migrant who abandoned the bridge and crossed into Mexico via the river. She clutched her 2-year-old daughter Dayani, who had recently had a heart operation, as she got off a raft.

"The girl suffered greatly because of all the people crowded" on the bridge, Bueso said. "There are risks that we must take for the good of our children."

Group leaders said the caravan, which will be smaller than the original one, would strike out Sunday morning for the city of Tapachula.

'Dark day': Congo rebels kill 2 health agents fighting Ebola

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Congo's health minister called it a "dark day" for everyone fighting the deadly Ebola outbreak after rebels shot and killed two medical agents with the Congolese army who had been assisting health officials.

It appeared to be the first time health workers have been killed by rebels in this outbreak, which is taking place in what has been compared to a war zone. Multiple rebel groups are active in Congo's far northeast.

The health ministry statement late Saturday said Mai Mai rebels surged from the forest and opened fire on the unarmed agents with the army's rapid intervention medical unit at an entrance to Butembo city.

The daytime attack appeared premeditated, with civilians present left unharmed, the statement said. The medical agents had been placed in "dangerous zones" to assist national border health officials.

Health workers in this outbreak have described hearing gunshots daily, carrying out Ebola containment work under armed escort and having to end their work by sundown to lower the risk of attack.

The number of confirmed Ebola cases has now reached 200, including 117 deaths. Aid groups expressed alarm after the insecurity and sometimes hostile community resistance led the rate of new cases to more than double this month.

Congo's health ministry has reported "numerous aggressions" against health workers, and two Red Cross volunteers were severely injured in one confrontation with wary community members in a region traumatized by decades of fighting and facing an Ebola outbreak for the first time.

"Health agents are not a target for armed groups," Health Minister Oly Ilunga said Saturday. "Our agents will continue to go into the field each day to fulfill the mission entrusted to them. They are true heroes and we will continue to take all necessary measures so that they can do their job safely."

A deadly rebel attack against civilians in Beni late last month forced the suspension of Ebola containment efforts for days, and the effects are still being seen. Many of the new confirmed cases this month, including six reported on Saturday, have been in Beni, which is where most of the Ebola work in this outbreak is based.

On Wednesday, the World Health Organization said it was "deeply concerned" by the ongoing outbreak but that the situation does not yet warrant being declared a global emergency. To warrant being declared a global emergency, an outbreak must be "an extraordinary event" that might cross borders, requiring a coordinated response.

Confirmed cases in this outbreak have been found near the heavily traveled border with Uganda.

Focus

AP

In this 2016 photo provided by Jason Packineau, Danielle Lucero, center, of Isleta Pueblo, New Mexico, speaks during Indigenous Peoples' Day at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. The clash between Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and President Donald Trump over her Native American heritage highlights the varying methods tribes use to decide who belongs. The decision has wide-ranging consequences for Native American communities and their relationship with the federal government

Warren ancestry highlights how tribes decide membership

By FELICIA FONSECA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)—Jon Rios traces his ancestry to the Pima people of Arizona, but he has no tribal enrollment card and lives hundreds of miles away in Colorado.

He has no interest in meeting any federally imposed requirements to prove his connection to a tribe. If anyone asks, he says he's Native American.

"I'm a little bit like Elizabeth Warren. I have my ancestral lineage," Rios said, referring to his affiliation with the Pima, also known as Akimel O'odham.

The clash between the Massachusetts Democratic senator and President Donald Trump over her Native American heritage highlights the varying methods tribes use to determine who belongs—a decision that has wide-ranging consequences.

Some tribes rely on blood relationships, or "blood quantum," to confer membership. Historically, they had a broader view that included non-biological connections and whether a person had a stake in the community.

The 573 federally recognized tribes have a unique political relationship with the United States as sovereign governments that must be consulted on issues that affect them, such as sacred sites, environmental rules and commercial development. Treaties guarantee access to health care and certain social services but they can be treated differently when involved in a federal crime on a reservation.

Within tribes, enrollment also means being able to seek office, vote in tribal elections and secure property rights.

For centuries, a person's percentage of Native American blood had nothing to do with determining who was a tribal member. And for some tribes, it still doesn't.

Membership was based on kinship and encompassed biological relatives, those who married into the tribe and even people captured by Native Americans during wars. Black slaves held by tribes during the 1800s and their descendants became members of tribes now in Oklahoma after slavery was abolished. The Navajo Nation contemplated ways Mexican slaves could become enrolled, according to Paul Spuhan, an attorney for the tribe.

Degree of blood became a widely used standard for tribal enrollment in the 1930s when the federal government encouraged tribes to have written constitutions. The blood quantum often was determined in crude ways such as sending anthropologists and federal agents to inspect Native Americans' physical features, like hair, skin color and nose shape.

"It became this very biased, pseudo-science racial measurement," said Danielle Lucero, a member of Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico and a doctoral student at Arizona State University.

Many tribes that adopted constitutions under the Indian Reorganization Act, and even those that did not, changed enrollment requirements. Blood quantum and lineal descent, or a person's direct ancestors, remain dominant determinants.

A 1978 U.S. Supreme Court case, Santa Clara v. Martinez, upheld the authority of tribes to define their membership based on cultural values and norms. Some tribes also have used that authority to remove members.

"Historically, we have very fluid understandings of relatedness," said David Wilkins, a University of Minnesota law professor who is a member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. "It was more about your value, orientation and whether or not you acted like a good citizen and a good person, and if you fulfilled your responsibilities. It didn't matter if you had one-half, one-quarter or 1/1,000th, whatever Elizabeth Warren had."

The Navajo Nation, one of the largest tribes in the Southwest, has a one-fourth blood quantum requirement.

The Lumbee Tribe requires members to trace ancestry to a tribal roll, re-enroll every seven years and take a civics test about prominent tribal leaders and historical events, Wilkins said.

DNA alone is not used to prove a person's Native American background. The tests assess broad genetic markers, not specific tribal affiliations or connectedness to a tribal community.

The Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma uses a roster of names developed near the start of the 20th century to determine membership, regardless of the degree of Indian blood. In that era, federal agents also ascribed blood quantum to Native Americans for purposes of land ownership, Spruhan wrote.

Warren, who grew up in Norman, Oklahoma, and is seen as a presidential contender in 2020, recently released results of a DNA test that she said indicated she had a distant Native American ancestor. The test was intended to answer Trump, who has repeatedly mocked her and called her "Pocahontas."

She has said her roots were part of "family lore," and has never sought membership in any tribe.

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee works to protect sacred sites, culture camps and language immersion for her small Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe in southern Louisiana. The tribe also is seeking federal recognition.

"It's not just about money, it's about how do we protect our cultural heritage?" said Ferguson-Bohnee, who oversees the Indian Legal Program at Arizona State University.

Nicole Willis grew up hours away from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation in the Pacific Northwest, which she calls home. She traveled often from Seattle for cultural events and to spend summers with her grandmother.

To her, being Native American means her family is part of a distinct, interconnected community that has existed since ancient times. Her tribe requires citizens to be one-quarter Native American, with a grandparent or parent enrolled in the tribe, but she said "theoretically, it shouldn't matter."

"We should identify with the nation that we feel a part of," she said. "Because of the way the government dealt with us, we don't have the benefit of ignoring the numbers aspect."

Back in Greeley, Colorado, Rios tries to maintain traditions passed down through his father's side and his identity by gathering medicinal plants, giving thanks for food and to his creator, sitting with family around an open fire and passing knowledge on to his daughters.

"It's important for me and especially our people, always being respectful and trying to maintain that balance," he said.

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by
Tan Holdings
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Walk your way to better health

By JOSEPH HERNANDEZ
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

We've heard it before: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Such a cliche, right?

But a single step will start you on the path toward better health, and you'll need to accrue significantly less than a thousand miles. In fact, you just need 10,000 steps.

That magic number may seem daunting but is much easier to reach than you think. Clocking in at roughly 5 miles, this guideline meets the U.S. surgeon general's recommendation of 30 minutes of moderate activity a day.

The result? Decreased risk of heart disease, lower blood pressure, weight maintenance and reduced risk of osteoporosis are just some of the benefits of hitting 10,000 daily steps, according to the American Heart Association.

National Runners' Health Study and National Walkers' Health Study, the AHA argues that moderate-intensity walking is as beneficial as vigorous running, though runners end up exercising twice as much in the same amount of time as walkers. That said, any spurt of activity is beneficial to health, according to the group.

It all begins with that one step. If you're starting from the beginning, nonprofit group Shape Up America offers tips on building up to the magic number, but their first tip? Get a pedometer. (Luckily, many smartphones now offer walking apps to track your daily steps, among other things.)

Shape Up says most people walk between 900 and 3,000 steps, but it's easy to build up to 10,000 without strain. Setting daily goals—2,500 the first week, 3,000 the next—helps scale your walking until you eventually reach 10,000.

And don't think that you have to knock out 10,000 steps all at once. The AHA's Russell Pate, a professor of exercise science in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, suggests breaking up your walks into manageable 10- to 15-minute chunks. "It's not a skill-dependent form of activity," Pate said. "It's the most accessible form of physical activity."

Build in a walk on your lunch break, or walk after dinner with a friend or loved one. A few simple changes—even pacing while on the phone—will get you to the magic number in no time. "You can do it almost anywhere," Pate said.

Home remedies: Treating anxiety with herbal remedies

Several herbal remedies have been studied as a treatment for anxiety, but more research is needed to understand the risks and benefits. Here's what we know—and don't know:

DREAMSTIME

Some people find that these herbal remedies help them with anxiety. Here's what we know and don't.

■ Kava

Kava appeared to be a promising treatment for anxiety, but reports of serious liver damage—even with short-term use—caused the Food and Drug Administration to issue warnings about the use of dietary supplements containing kava. While these initial reports of liver toxicity have been questioned, use extra caution and involve your doctor in the decision if you're considering using products containing kava.

■ Passion flower

A few small clinical trials suggest that passion flower might help with anxiety. In many commercial products, passion flower is combined with other herbs, making it difficult to distinguish the unique qualities of each herb. Passion flower is generally considered safe when taken as directed, but some studies found it can cause drowsiness, dizziness and confusion.

■ Valerian

In some studies, people who used valerian reported less anxiety and stress. In other studies, people reported no benefit. Valerian is generally considered safe at recommended doses, but since long-term safety trials are lacking, don't take it for more than a few weeks at a time, unless your doctor approves. It can cause some side effects such as headaches, dizziness and drowsiness.

■ Chamomile

Limited data shows that short-term use of chamomile is generally considered safe and can be effective in reducing symptoms of anxiety. But chamomile can increase the risk of bleeding when used with blood-thinning drugs. Use of chamomile can cause allergic reactions in some people who are sensitive to the family of plants that includes chamomile. Other members of this family are ragweed, marigolds, daisies and chrysanthemums.

■ Lavender

Some evidence suggests that oral lavender or aromatherapy with lavender can reduce anxiety; however, evidence is preliminary and limited. Oral lavender can cause constipation and headaches. It can also increase appetite, increase the sedative effect of other medications and supplements, and cause low blood pressure.

■ Lemon balm

Preliminary research shows lemon balm can reduce some symptoms of anxiety, such as nervousness and excitability. Lemon balm is generally well-tolerated and considered safe for short-term use, but can cause nausea and abdominal pain.

Herbal supplements aren't monitored by the FDA the same way medications are. Despite enhanced quality control regulations in place since 2010, the quality of some supplements may still be an issue. Remember, natural doesn't always mean safe. If you're considering taking any herbal supplement as a treatment for anxiety, talk to your doctor first, especially if you take other medications. The interaction of some herbal supplements and certain medications can cause serious side effects.

Some herbal supplements taken for anxiety can cause you to feel sleepy, so they may not be safe to take when driving or doing dangerous tasks. Your doctor can help you understand possible risks and benefits if you choose to try an herbal supplement.

If your anxiety is interfering with daily activities, talk with your doctor. More-serious forms of anxiety generally need medical treatment or psychological counseling (psychotherapy) for symptoms to improve. ***(Mayo Clinic News Network)***

Life & Style

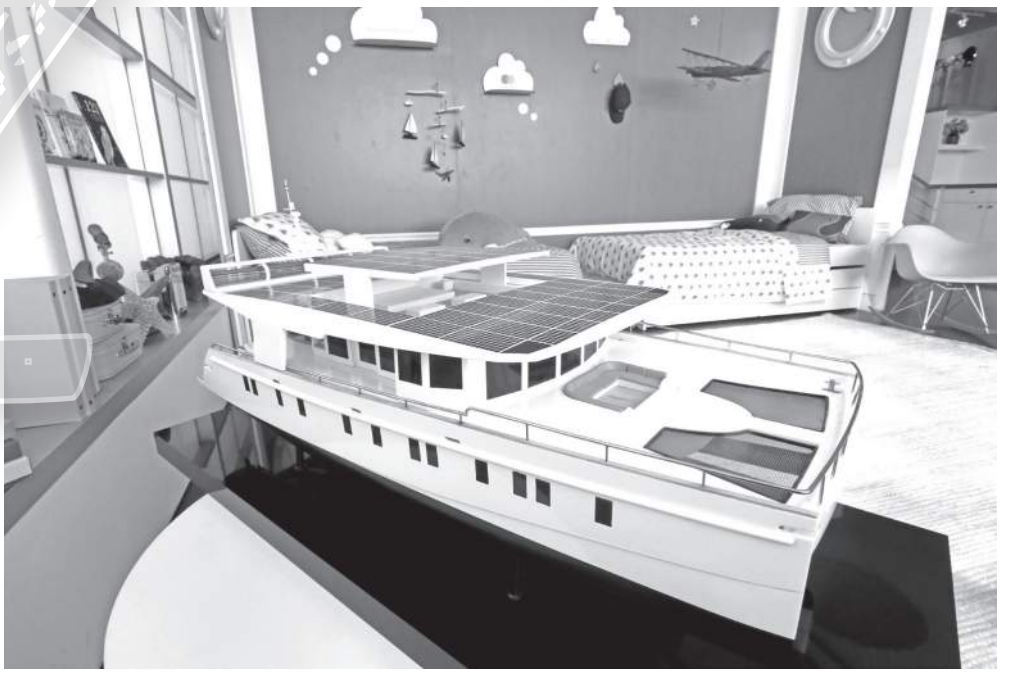
Got $7.1M? Neiman Marcus tops 2018 fantasy gifts with yacht

NEW YORK (AP)—Need a $7.1 million yacht? How about jumping out of a plane on a top secret spy mission with a $315,000 price tag? Perhaps a backyard luxury clubhouse sounds better, or a million pieces of candy.

No matter your taste, if you've got big bucks this is your time of year. The Dallas-based Neiman Marcus luxury department store company showed off its 2018 list of over-the-top fantasy gifts, with an emphasis on fantasy for those of us in the 99 percent. The list always garners plenty of attention, from those who covet the items and those who heap scorn at its outrageousness.

A portion of proceeds goes to The Heart of Neiman Marcus Foundation for student arts support and other projects.

A peek inside:



A model of the 74-foot Neiman Marcus Serenity Solar Yacht is displayed during a preview of the Neiman Marcus Christmas Book in New York, Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018. AP

TIGERS & THE TAJ MAHAL

For $630,000, your gift recipient and three guests can travel by private jet on a 30-day trip to India, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives. There will be five-star hotels, secluded lodges and chic safari tents. But this is a wellness trip, so time with yoga masters, Hindu priests and monks is also involved. So are island cruises on a yacht and a helicopter tour of the Himalayas.

SPEAKING OF YACHTS

Topping this year's offerings is a solar-driven, 74-foot bespoke yacht that comfortably sleeps 12. There's a fully functional kitchen, state-of-the-art music and entertainment system and—perhaps the best part—a Neiman Marcus shopping spree before heading out to explore the deep blue sea.

SECRET AGENT MAN OR WOMAN

Know any Bond fanatics? This experience will satisfy armchair operatives and adrenaline junkies alike. Fly to Las Vegas on a private jet for a three-day, two-night espionage adventure. A mystery man in a tuxedo greets a group of four with a top secret mission, including racing supercars and jumping out of planes, all with help from retired special ops forces.

HIPPO IN A TUTU GUY

New Yorkers and New York visitors may remember the 15-foot bronze hippo in the tutu at Lincoln Center that's now gone. Well, that artist, Danish sculptor Bjorn Okholm Skaarup, can cast a family pet or favorite creature for a giftee, complete with a trip to Florence, Italy, to spend time with Skaarup himself at his foundry. $200,000-plus, depending on the size of the bronze tribute.

SUGAR JUNKIES UNITE

For $325,000, Sugarfina will set up a custom candy bar and ship off four people first class to the Italian Riviera for a luxe hotel stay and visit to the company's candy factory in Genoa. The sugar junkies will spend the day with the company's founders, take a behind-the-scenes tour and create some custom candy of their own. The sweetest part: Candy shipments home for up to three years.

COSPLAY WITH AN OSCAR WINNER

Costume designer Colleen Atwood, who focuses on fantasy in such films as "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald" and "Alice Through the Looking Glass," will design a custom piece and treat two for the day to lunch, swag and a possible film set tour of whatever project she might be working on at the time. Side note: She has four Academy Awards. $300,000.

TENNIS ANYONE?

Be the VIP of Sloane Stephens, winner of the U.S. Open last year, and bring a guest to all four of the sports Grand Slam events. That means trips to Paris, London, New York and Melbourne, Australia for a week in each place. Stephens will throw in a 45-minute match. $555,000.

HE SHED, SHE SHED

A sanctuary of self-care or a den of indulgence? You decide. The folks at Studio Shed and Mark Ashby Design swing both ways in these custom backyard spaces measuring 10-feet-by-12-feet. From art to finishes. A logistical team is provided for installation. $250,000.

Prince Harry raises Invictus Games flag over Sydney Harbor

SYDNEY (AP)—Prince Harry scaled the Sydney Harbor Bridge on Friday to raise a flag marking the arrival of the Invictus Games, his brainchild and the focus of his current royal tour of Australia and the South Pacific.

The sporting event, founded by Harry in 2014, starts on Saturday. It gives sick and injured military personnel and veterans the opportunity to compete in sports such as wheelchair basketball and to find inspiration to recover.

The fact that the Duchess of Sussex never planned to climb the world's tallest steel arch bridge with her husband had fueled speculation that she is pregnant. The speculation was confirmed on Monday when Harry and the former Meghan Markle announced that their first child is due in the northern spring.

Harry, Prime Minister Scott Morrison, four members of the Australian team and the widow of an Australian veteran climbed more than 1,000 steps up the back of an arch to raise the Invictus Games Sydney 2018 flag.

"The Sydney Harbor Bridge is an Australian icon and I can think of no better place to raise the ... flag," Morrison said in a statement.

During the descent, Harry hugged fellow climber Gwen Cherne, a games ambassador whose husband Peter Cafe, a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, took his own life in February.

"We were talking about mental health and really working on changing the way that our global community looks at mental health and deals with it," Cherne said later.

The flag will fly 134 meters (440 feet) above Sydney Harbor until the games close on Oct. 27.

Harry and his American former actress wife will attend the opening and closing games ceremonies. Around 500 athletes from 18 nations will compete in venues around Sydney.

The couple earlier Friday walked barefoot on Bondi Beach to meet a group of surfers focused on mental wellbeing.

The group, OneWave, meet weekly in an "anti-bad vibe circle" on the sand.

While the group dressed in loud and outrageous fluorescent outfits, Harry and Meghan were more subdued, but their message to the group was clear.

"They're super passionate about mental health. They are showing that mental health does not discriminate," OneWave co-founder Grant Trebilco said.

Charlotte Connell, a OneWave member, said Harry spoke of his own experiences seeking counselling more than 20 years after his mother, Princess Diana, died in a car crash in a Paris tunnel in 1997 when he was aged 12.

"Harry said it took him not six months, but 18 months to find the right person to speak to. 'You're not going to find the right person to speak to straight away,'" Connell said.

Both Harry and Meghan used exercise as a way of keeping well, Connell said.

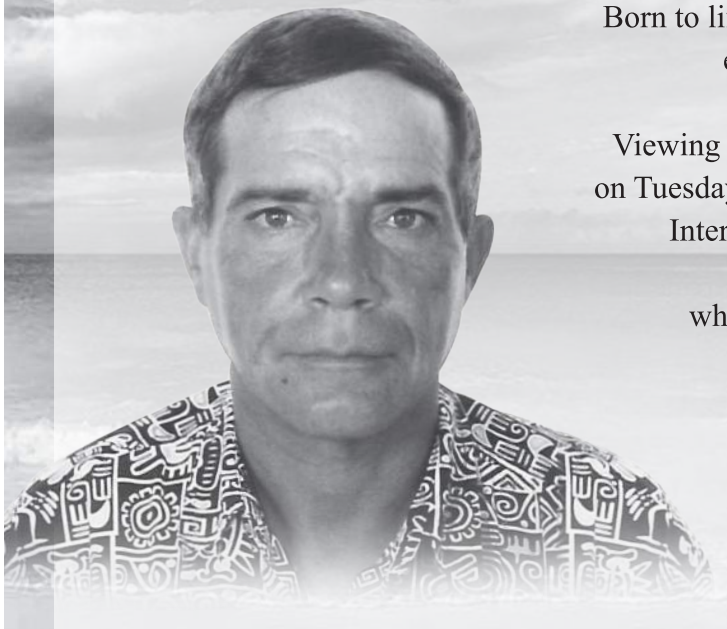
"Even in her jetlagged state, she got up in the morning and did yoga at 4.30 a.m.," Connell said.

"She said it's so good for healing her mind," Connell added.

After Bondi, the couple made an unannounced visit to Macarthur Girls High School in Parramatta in central Sydney.

In Loving Memory of

†DONALD WILBERT RHEA



Born to life on October 10, 1952 and was called to eternal life on October 11, 2018

Viewing will be held at the Borja Funeral Homes on Tuesday, October 23rd from 9:00am to 10:00am. Interment services will follow thereafter at the Veteran's Cemetery where he will be laid to his final rest.

Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated.

Miao Ci Rhea and Family

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Actress Selma Blair say she has been diagnosed with MS

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Film and TV actress Selma Blair announced she is dealing with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis. In a post Saturday on her Instagram account, Blair, 46, says she was diagnosed with the disease of the central nervous system on Aug. 16. Blair says she is struggling with the disease's effects on her: "I am disabled. I fall sometimes. I drop things. My memory is foggy. And my left side is asking for directions from a broken gps." She adds, however, that thanks to the support of the cast and crew of a Netflix show she is filming, as well as her friends and family, "we are doing it. And I laugh and I don't know exactly what I will do precisely but I will do my best." Blair has co-starred in a number of films and TV shows, including the 2001 hit "Legally Blonde."

Blair

Britney Spears returns to Vegas with new residency in 2019

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Britney Spears will return to Las Vegas with a new residency next year. MGM Resorts International on Friday said the pop superstar in February will kick off a series of regularly scheduled shows at Park Theater inside the Park MGM casino-resort on the Las Vegas Strip. Spears in a statement says she is happy to be returning to Sin City, which she described as her "second home." Spears wrapped up a residency at a different Las Vegas venue last year. Tickets for the "Britney: Domination" show start at $79. They go on sale to the general public Oct. 26. Concerts are scheduled for February, March, May, July and August. Lady Gaga and Aerosmith also have scheduled residencies at Park Theater.

Bette Midler, Brooke Shields among 'Murphy Brown' guests

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bette Midler and Brooke Shields are among the guest stars dropping in on CBS' "Murphy Brown" revival. Midler was on the original sitcom as Caprice, one of many difficult, short-tenured secretaries to Candice Bergen's Murphy. CBS said Thursday the singer-actress is back as Caprice on the Nov. 8 episode, this time with a connection to Murphy that makes her even more unbearable. Shields is on the Nov. 15 episode as a former beauty-pageant pal of series star Faith Ford's Corky who emerges from a long coma. The episode with Midler also features Katie Couric playing herself and former "Night Court" star John Larroquette as a judge. Peter Gallagher appears as a conservative news anchor covering elections with Murphy's son, played by Jake McDorman, on the Nov. 1 "Murphy Brown" episode.

Shields

Actor Bruce Willis sells central Idaho ranch for $5.5M

HAILEY, Idaho (AP)—Actor Bruce Willis has sold his 20-acre (8-hectare) ranch in central Idaho for $5.5 million. KTVB-TV reports in a story on Wednesday that's far below the original asking price of $15 million when the home was put up for sale in 2011. Travis Jones is a listing agent with Engel & Volkers Sun Valley who took over the job of selling the home in the small town of Hailey two years ago. Jones says the 8,400-square-foot (780-square-meter) main house has six bedrooms. There's also a guesthouse, gym and outdoor heated pool with waterslides that were built after Willis bought the estate in 2003.

Cardi B hands out free winter coats in New York

NEW YORK (AP)—Hundreds of people have lined up in New York City as rapper Cardi B handed out free winter coats. The Bronx-born rapper met with residents and fans on Thursday evening at the Marlboro Houses in Brooklyn during brisk fall weather. The 26-year-old also was given balloons and a cake to celebrate her recent birthday. Cardi B says she cares a lot about kids and the community and feels it's important to set a good example. On Oct. 1, she got a summons in connection with a melee at a New York strip club. Her lawyer says the star didn't cause any harm. About three weeks earlier, Cardi B and Nicki Minaj were involved in an altercation at a New York Fashion Week party.

Model Karlie Kloss marries Jared Kushner's brother

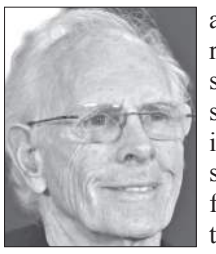
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Supermodel Karlie Kloss has married businessman Joshua Kushner. Kloss posted a photo of her in a wedding dress and Kushner in a tuxedo—both of them beaming—on Instagram and Twitter Thursday night. People magazine reports the couple married at a small ceremony in upstate New York and will have a larger ceremony in the spring. Kloss' publicists did not return an email seeking details about the wedding Thursday. Kushner is the younger brother of Jared Kushner, President Donald Trump's son-in-law and one of his senior advisers. Kloss has modeled for Victoria's Secret and numerous luxury brands, and will be the new host of "Project Runway."

Lena Dunham shutting down online feminist newsletter

NEW YORK (AP)—Lena Dunham is shutting down her online feminist newsletter. The author and creator of "Girls" announced Friday that the publication she co-founded three years ago, Lenny , had reached its "final chapter." In a message to readers, Dunham wrote that there was "no one reason" for the decision and said she was proud that Lenny had provided a forum for "new voices." The message was also signed by Lenny co-founder Jenni Konner and by editorial director Molly Elizalde. Dunham and Konner were executive producers of "Girls," the acclaimed HBO series in which Dunham starred. They had ended their producing partnership over the summer.

Bruce Dern released from hospital after f all while jogging

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actor Bruce Dern has been released from the hospital after a fall during his daily jog in Los Angeles. A representative for the 82-year-old Dern says he was released Friday evening following his fall earlier in the day. The Oscar-nominated actor's representative says he is in good spirits. No further details were released. Dern starred in the 2013 film "Nebraska" as the character Woodrow T. "Woody" Grant, earning him an Academy Award nomination for best actor. He also played in films "Coming Home," ''The Hateful Eight," ''Black Sunday" and "White Boy Rick." His representative says Dern just finished filming Quentin Tarantino's upcoming movie "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood." The actor is currently filming Showtime's upcoming comedy series "Black Monday."


Dern

Marvel universe a slice smaller with Luke Cage cancellation

The Marvel universe just got a slice smaller on Netflix with the cancellation of "Marvel's Luke Cage" after two seasons. The news Friday surprised fans and came soon after Netflix axed another live-action Marvel series, "Iron Fist." Both are part of The Defenders world and ordered up by Netflix among five back in 2013. "Unfortunately, Marvel's Luke Cage will not return for a third season," said a statement released by Netflix. "Everyone at Marvel Television and Netflix is grateful to the dedicated showrunner, writers, cast and crew who brought Harlem's Hero to life for the past two seasons, and to all the fans who have supported the series." Netflix didn't provide a reason for the cancellation. An email request for additional comment was not immediately returned Saturday. The Cage series made a splash when it was released because it featured a rare black superhero in a stand-alone vehicle. Mike Colter starred as the bullet-proof hero for hire. The second season premiered in June. Cage creator and showrunner Cheo Hodari Coker responded on Twitter but also offered no insight into why the series was dumped. "A lot memories. A lot of individual thank you calls to make," he said. "Just want to say thank you to Marvel, Netflix, the best Writer's room, cast, crew, the Midnight Hour, all those who graced the stage at Harlem's Paradise and the most incredible fan base in the world. Forward always..." Disney, Marvel's parent company, is working on its own streaming service. ***(AP)***

Lynn says she's better after illness sent her to hospital

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Loretta Lynn says she is doing better after a brief hospital visit to treat an illness that kept her from attending a CMT tribute to her and other female country artists. A message posted on Lynn's official Facebook page Saturday afternoon said she is feeling better and is now resting at home. Lynn's post said she was sick, but did not provide additional details. The 86-year-old just released a new album, "Wouldn't It Be Great." She was unable to attend Wednesday's CMT Artists of the Year awards ceremony. Actress Sissy Spacek accepted the honor on Lynn's behalf. Spacek won an Oscar for her portrayal of Lynn in "Coal Miner's Daughter" and called Lynn a trailblazer. Lynn wrote she had watched Spacek's tribute several times and appreciated the kind words from her "sweet friend."

Need continues for self-help support for families in crisis

DEAR ABBY: It's been several years since you have mentioned Because I Love You (B.I.L.Y.) as a resource for parents in crisis. What is happening to our groups—as well as similar ones—is a decrease in attendance. Yet the problems today are worse than when I started B.I.L.Y. many years ago. The schools don't want a group such as ours on their campus because they're afraid it signals that there are problems on their campus. Well, there are problems on ALL campuses today!

The legalization of recreational marijuana has sent a message to our youth that it's safe to use. Parents of 10-year-olds have come to our group because their child is using. Kids are dying at a faster pace than ever before, and much of it is because of synthetic drugs on the streets. Parents can be a major part of the problem, and a group like B.I.L.Y. offers suggestions for solutions. It's not just drugs that we deal with but also mental health issues, gender ID, school dropouts, gang involvement and more.

We rely on the media to help us with referrals. Will you please consider mentioning B.I.L.Y. again as you so generously have in the past? Parents in the U.S. and Canada need to be aware that we are here for them. Thanks, Abby!

DENNIS PONCHER, FOUNDER, B.I.L.Y.

DEAR DENNIS: I'm happy to mention Because I Love You again. Readers, the nonprofit B.I.L.Y. has been in existence for more than 35 years. This self-help group provides support for parents of children of all ages in coping with behavioral problems such as truancy, substance abuse and other forms of defiance of authority. I have received letters from readers thanking me for recommending this group. For more information, go to bily.org.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married for 13 years. It hasn't always been easy. She recently decided on her own that we needed a fresh start because of some financial problems we are having, so she applied for a job in a state six hours away from any of our family. She accepted the job before telling me anything about it. Now she says our daughter and I should pack up and go with her.

Several issues complicate matters. Our daughter is 11 and just started middle school. I don't want to pull her out before school is out. Second, I have several health issues, and my doctors are within two hours of home. All my doctors coordinate with each other. If we move, I'll be too far away from them. I don't want to start over with new ones.

I love my wife and want to be with her, but I'm worried about the future if I move not only away from my doctors but also my family. Please help.

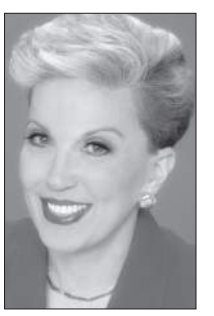
NERVOUS IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR NERVOUS: The decision your wife made should have been made jointly, not by her alone. Your reasons for wanting to remain where you are are valid, and I think you would be wise to discuss what's going on with an attorney before this goes any further.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

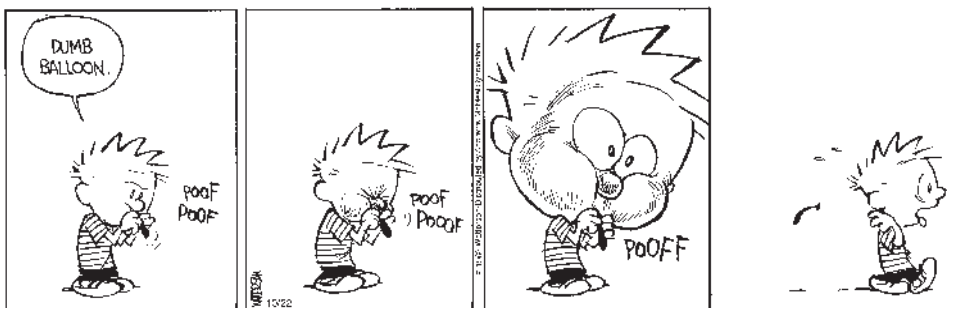


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

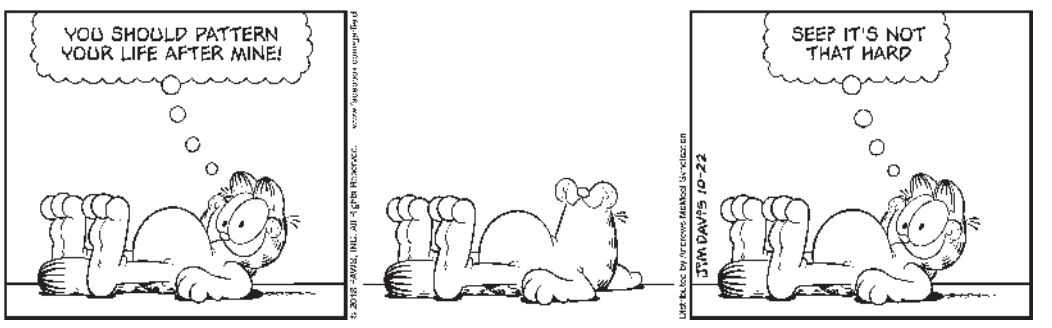
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WELL, READY TO GO?
BURP
I'M GOING TO ORDER A PIECE OF SPONGE CAKE FIRST.
I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE FULL!
I AM, BUT I JUST WANT TO SEE IF IT WILL MAYBE SOAK UP SOME OF THAT FOOD I ATE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

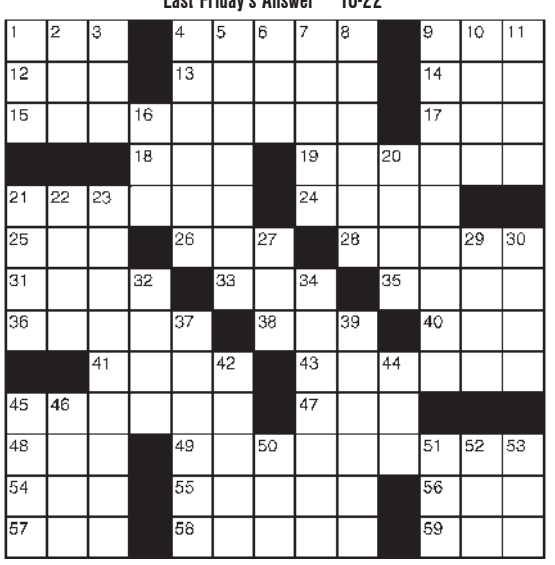
ACROSS
1 "Nova" airer
4 Fawned (on)
9 Small ammo
12 Satisfied sigh
13 Dodge
14 Exist
15 Requiring low temperatures
17 Aunt, in Acapulco
18 Bruins legend
19 Poseidon's son
21 Curved
24 Satan's domain
25 Debussy's "La —"
26 Aachen article
28 Put in office
31 Adams and Irving
33 Mil. group
35 Cicatrix
36 Bridge abstention
38 Knee protector
40 "King Kong" studio
41 Together, in music
43 Answer to "Are we there?"
45 Actor De Niro
47 Former Delta rival
48 Blackbird
49 Public uproar
54 Hockey surface
55 Maxim
56 Copper head?
57 — Moines
58 Rationed (out)
59 Cacophony

DOWN
1 Lobbying org.
2 Saloon
3 Bashful
4 Academic goal
5 Went too far
6 Light brown
7 Author Wharton
8 Edict
9 Leon Uris novel
10 Vivacity
11 Writer O'Casey
16 La-la lead-in
20 Misfortunes
21 "Walk Like —"
22 San —, Italy
23 Whiners
27 Wee bite
29 Wedding dessert
30 Jog
32 Faction
34 Viewpoint
37 Home of Duke University
39 Swallowed
42 Violin piece
44 Wee bit
45 Incursion
46 Formerly
50 Dig in
51 Scoundrel
52 MLB stat
53 Longing

Solution time: 26 mins.

W	E	E		A	S	P		A	N	N	U	L
U	N	A		B	A	A		B	E	A	N	O
R	N	S		B	L	U	E	B	A	Y	C	U
S	U	E		Y	A	L	I	A				
T	I	L	L		R	O	O		A	B	I	T
			I	C	Y		N	C	M	O	R	E
I	N	L	S	E				A	B	A	S	E
M	E	R	L	O	T		E	K	E			
P	O	N	E		R	E	X		R	O	B	E
				P	E	R	I	L		P	A	X
I	T	S	S	O	E	A	S	Y		A	B	U
S	W	O	R	E		S	T	E		R	E	D
M	A	X	I	M		E	S	S		T	S	E

Last Friday's Answer 10-22



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jesse Tyler Ferguson, 43; Saffron Burrows, 46; Jeff Goldblum, 66; Christopher Lloyd, 80.

Happy Birthday: Look at the possibilities, not the negativity, and you will be motivated to make positive changes this year. Concentrate on participating in events and activities that move you. Strive to become the best version of yourself and project happiness and joy to all you encounter. Make this year count. Take nothing for granted, and live in the moment. Your numbers are 5, 13, 18, 20, 26, 37, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* An emotional situation should not be allowed to take over. Reflect on what has transpired and figure out a way to get along instead of making a fuss. Professionalism, integrity and balance will help gain respect and support. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Look at your options. Time is on your side, so don't feel pressured to act before you are ready. Communication is the best vehicle if you want to find out exactly what you are up against. Don't let anger take over. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Play nice, but play to win. Use your ingenuity to formulate ideas that will help you advance, but not at the expense of someone else. You are smart enough to win fair and square, and your valor will not go unnoticed. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* You've got more going for you than you realize. Don't fear what others think or say; trust in your ability to get things done. A change of plans will end up working in your favor. Embrace the future with optimism. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Remember what's important, and try to be patient. Personal change will be a result of what someone else decides to do. Regroup and figure out what's best for yourself, and keep moving forward. Your strength will manifest through your ability to adapt. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take a trip and visit someone you look up to or can learn from. The changes you make will attract friends and associates who value what you have to offer. Collaboration will bring the best results as well as trusted friendships. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Pick up the pace and take on responsibilities. Your input will make a difference to those struggling to keep up. A change of attitude will lead to physical improvements, proper diet, exercise and the will to be your best. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't give in to unfair or manipulative tactics. Make your thoughts and plans clear. Change should begin within, not be the result of following someone who is pressuring you. Handle problems at home with dignity, intelligence and discipline. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Stick close to home and spend time fixing up your space or making personal changes that will make your life better. Keep your plans a secret until you have had a chance to work out any problems. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Get in the game. Make changes that will enhance what you have to offer. Keep up with technology or the latest updates. Being current will make a difference to the way others view what you do. Aim to stabilize your position. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't expect something for nothing. If someone is trying to coax you into something questionable, consider why, and don't be afraid to pass. Rely on what you know to be factual and the people offering options, not demands. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Let your mind wander and your ideas flow. The changes you make should be geared toward an efficient lifestyle. How you handle your money, responsibilities and relationships with your peers or employer will influence your reputation. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, sensitive and dedicated. You are loyal and perceptive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9				4				
	8	1		3			5	
	2	3	7	5		4		
		8	2		1			4
	1	7				6	8	
5			3		8	2		
		2		4	7	1	6	
	9			1		8	3	
			8					7

Difficulty Level ★ 10/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

4	9	5	2	8	6	7	1	3
3	6	8	1	4	7	9	2	5
2	1	7	3	9	5	8	4	6
8	2	9	4	5	1	3	6	7
1	5	4	6	7	3	2	8	9
6	7	3	9	2	8	1	5	4
5	8	1	7	6	9	4	3	2
7	3	2	5	1	4	6	9	8
9	4	6	8	3	2	5	7	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/22

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

IN A BEDROOM Solution: 9 letters

M	P	T	E	D	T	E	S	O	L	C	L	O	C	K
N	O	I	S	I	V	E	L	E	T	D	K	N	U	B
E	K	D	L	A	M	P	E	B	O	R	D	R	A	W
L	D	O	E	L	J	E	W	E	L	R	Y	B	O	X
G	E	U	O	R	O	C	R	I	B	R	Y	L	L	N
N	L	B	V	B	N	W	A	S	A	U	Y	I	A	I
I	B	L	E	E	T	C	S	R	H	G	B	N	N	G
S	A	E	M	D	T	E	O	O	P	E	E	D	O	H
E	T	M	E	S	R	P	K	M	T	E	L	S	I	T
H	R	O	H	T	M	I	E	N	P	O	T	F	T	S
T	O	H	T	E	N	A	F	C	A	U	H	A	I	T
O	F	A	T	G	M	R	A	L	A	L	T	P	D	A
L	M	N	U	R	S	E	R	Y	R	P	B	E	A	N
C	O	M	F	O	R	T	E	R	E	S	S	E	R	D
C	C	G	N	I	D	D	E	B	A	S	K	E	T	S

© 2018 Tribune Media Services, Inc. www.wonderwordpuzzles.com 10/22

Alarm, Baby, Baskets, Bedding, Beds, Blanket, Blinds, Book, Bunk, Carpet, Clock, Closet, Clothes, Comfortable, Comforter, Computer, Contemporary, Crib, Double, Dresser, Duvet, Fan, Home, Jewelry Box, King, Lamp, Mattress, Modern, Nightstand, Nursery, Photos, Pillows, Rug, Shelf, Single, Space, Television, Theme, Traditional, Wardrobe

Last Friday's Answer: Rick and Famous

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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- Customer service oriented with an outgoing personality
- Must be able to work Evenings/Overtime
- Must possess valid CNMI Drivers License
- Must be 18 yrs of age or older
- Must be able to travel

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WHATZIT Solution: Guest list

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
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• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

GUESSED

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Find today's solution in classified section

Fight breaks out as Rockets spoil LeBron's home debut

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James scored 24 points for the Lakers in his wild home debut, which included three players getting ejected for fighting late in the fourth quarter, as the Rockets won 124-115.

Houston's Chris Paul and the Lakers' Brandon Ingram and Rajon Rondo were tossed with 4:13 to play after a prolonged series of confrontations that put an ugly end on a celebratory night for Lakers fans eager to welcome James to the West Coast.

The game was close until Ingram was called for a foul while trying to defend an aggressive drive by James Harden, who finished with 36 points.

When the action cooled, Harden hit a key 3-pointer to propel the Rockets to their first win of the season.

James also had five rebounds and five assists. JaVale McGee had 16 points and six rebounds in his own Lakers home debut, while Rondo had 13 points and 10 assists before getting thrown out.

Paul had 28 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds before getting tossed.

AP

Houston Rockets' Chris Paul, second from left, is held back by Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James, left, as Paul fights with Lakers' Rajon Rondo, center obscured, during the second half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018, in Los Angeles. The Rockets won, 124-115.

Celtics 103, Knicks 101

In New York, Jayson Tatum had 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Boston withstood his careless foul with 1.9 seconds left to beat the New York.

Tatum had just given the Celtics a three-point lead with two free throws with 7.9 seconds left and the Knicks called their final timeout. They had trouble getting the ball inbounded from the sideline, and Knicks guard Trey Burke had to race into the backcourt to retrieve it as the clocked ran down. He pulled up for a 3-pointer from well beyond the arc and Tatum jumped to contest it, fouling Burke for three free throws that could have tied it.

But he missed the first and the Knicks couldn't grab the rebound when he intentionally missed the third.

76ers 116, Magic 115

In Philadelphia, JJ Redick hit a 3-pointer with 17 seconds left to lift the 76ers over the Magic.

Redick had his best game since moving to Philadelphia's bench at the start of the season, scoring 31 points on 10-of-20 shooting, including eight 3-pointers.

Aaron Gordon had a chance to tie it with 10 seconds remaining but missed his second free throw, and a desperation heave by Terrance Ross missed the net entirely.

Joel Embiid had 32 points and 10 rebounds for the 76ers, including 19 points by halftime.

Raptors 117, Wizards 113

In Washington, taking over with Kawhi Leonard getting a night off, Kyle Lowry delivered 28 points and 12 assists Saturday night to help the Raptors improve to 3-0 with a victory over the Wizards.

The Raptors rested Leonard on the second half of a back-to-back and third game in four days to open the season.

Washington finished the game without ejected coach Scott Brooks. Bradley Beal scored 32 points, going 6 for 11 on 3s, and John Wall added 25 points and six assists for the Wizards, who are 0-2, with both games at home.

Pacers 132, Nets 112

In Indianapolis, Victor Oladipo had 25 points and seven rebounds to lead the Pacers to a victory over the Nets.

Kyle O'Quinn came off the bench and scored 14 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter. Bojan Bogdanovic and Tyreke Evans each scored 15 points for the Pacers (2-1), who bounced back following a 118-101 loss at Milwaukee on Friday, the first night of a back-to-back.

Hornets 113, Heat 112

In Miami, Kemba Walker scored 39 points, including the game-winning free throw with a half-second left, and the Hornets spoiled Dwyane Wade's final home opener by topping the Heat.

The Hornets led by 26 points midway through the third quarter, then wasted it all before Walker saved them on a night when he eclipsed the career 10,000-point mark.

Wade scored to tie the game with 12.3 seconds left, setting up the final play. Walker drove on Miami's Rodney McGruder, wound up on the ground and referee Scott Wall called a blocking foul—one the Heat argued to no avail.

Pistons 118, Bulls 116

In Chicago, Blake Griffin had 33 points and 12 rebounds, Ish Smith scored all 15 of his points in the second half, including the game-winning basket, and the Pistons beat the Bulls.

Griffin was 12 for 23 from the field, including 5 of 7 on 3-pointers, as Detroit won its second straight to start the season.

Zach LaVine had 33 points on 12-of-22 shooting for Chicago, which dropped its second consecutive game.

Mavericks 140, Timberwolves 136

In Dallas, Luka Doncic scored 26 points in the teenager's home debut, Dennis Smith Jr. converted a tiebreaking three-point play with six seconds left and the Mavericks beat the Timberwolves in a wild offensive game.

DeAndre Jordan had 22 points, 10 rebounds and five blocks for the Mavericks in his first game in front of the fans who used to boo him unmercifully after the Texas native backed out on a pledge to join Dallas in free agency three years ago.

The Timberwolves didn't seem to miss Jimmy Butler much after letting the disgruntled guard stay home to rest on the second night of their first back-to-back this season. Minnesota matched the most points Dallas has given up a first quarter while going up 46-37.

Nuggets 119, Suns 91

In Denver, Nikola Jokic scored 35 points, posted a triple-double and didn't miss a field goal in leading Denver.

Jokic, who had 10 assists and 10 rebounds, joined Wilt Chamberlain as the only players in NBA history to post a triple-double with 30 or more points without missing a field goal. Chamberlain did it twice, in 1966 and '67.

Jokic made all 11 of his shots from the floor and missed just one of 11 free throws.

Jamal Murray added 26 points for the Nuggets, who are off to their first 2-0 start since 2011-12 and will go for their first 3-0 start since 2009-10.

Trail Blazers 121, Spurs 108

In Portland, Damian Lillard had 29 points and CJ McCollum added 24 as Portland opened the season with a pair of home wins.

Jusuf Nurkic added 12 points for the Blazers, who led the Spurs by as many as 20 points in the fourth quarter after a close first half.

DeMar DeRozan had 28 points and nine rebounds in a second strong performance after coming to the Spurs in an offseason trade.

Koepka grabs golf's top ranking with win in South Korea

JEJU ISLAND, South Korea (AP) — Brooks Koepka is golf's new No. 1 after winning the CJ Cup at Nine Bridges on Sunday by four strokes.

Koepka, who displaced Dustin Johnson for the world's top ranking, shot a final-round 8-under 64 for a 21-under total of 267. Koepka, who had never held the top ranking, led by four strokes after three rounds.

"To be No. 1 is something I've dreamed of as a kid," Koepka said. "I don't think this one is going to sink in."

Gary Woodland certainly made it interesting. Woodland started the day five strokes behind Koepka, who was only 1-under after nine, but Woodland pulled level after making six birdies in seven holes on the front nine.

The two dueled on the back nine, with Woodland birdieing 15 and 16 to again pull level. But Koepka did the same, and a bogey by Woodland on the par-3 17th gave Koepka the cushion he needed to close out the win despite a birdie on the 18th by Woodland.

The biggest moment came on the 16th. Koepka went from a fairway bunker to just left of the green, about 70 feet away. Koepka hit a chip-and-run that was stopped by the pin and dropped for the birdie.

Koepka finished in style with a 25-foot eagle putt on the 18th for a 29 on the back nine.

"I'm not somebody who's going to panic if things go the wrong way," Koepka said of his slow start. "I felt like the one at 15 was quite big with Gary making a charge."

Woodland finished second after a 63. Ryan Palmer birdied his last seven holes to shoot a course-record 62 and finish in a tie for third place with Rafa Cabrera Bello (65), four strokes behind Koepka.

Woodland was happy with his final round, but looked back to a few missed birdie chances on Saturday.

"Brooks with the lead.not much fazes him," Woodland said. "So you knew you had to make a lot of birdies and I made a lot today. I was trying to put as much pressure as I could. But just shows I was too far back to start after not making too many putts yesterday. I gave myself a chance, I was tied for the lead there. Brooks obviously just made some clutch shots down the stretch."

Palmer said he became more confident with each of his seven straight birdies on the back nine.

"The more I made, the more free I felt in my swing and I was able to hit some close," Palmer said. "I made some long putts coming down the stretch. Actually on 17, I looked at my scorecard, I was like, 'oh, that's six in a row.' It is kind of back there, but you don't think about it. What a special day."

Defending champion Justin Thomas, who could have prevented Koepka from moving to No. 1 with a repeat win, finished at 5-under after a 68 Sunday.

Koepka is the third player this year to reach No. 1 for the first time, joining Justin Rose and Thomas. The last time that happened was in 1997, when Ernie Els, Tom Lehman and Tiger Woods each rose to No. 1.

Dodgers finish off Brewers, return to World Series

MILWAUKEE (AP)— Yasiel Puig and Cody Bellinger flexed their muscles. Chris Taylor flashed some leather.

Then the Los Angeles Dodgers got a lift from ace Clayton Kershaw out of the bullpen to finish off the Milwaukee Brewers and return to the World Series.

Puig broke open a tight contest with a three-run homer in the sixth inning, Taylor robbed Christian Yelich with a super catch and the Dodgers took Game 7 of the NL Championship Series with a 5-1 win on Saturday night.

It's off to Fenway Park for a showdown against the Boston Red Sox in Game 1 of the World Series on Tuesday.

"It's pretty cool. It's going to be a pretty special series," said Bellinger, chosen as the NLCS MVP.

Los Angeles hasn't won the World Series since 1988. The Dodgers and Red Sox have met once before in the World Series, back in 1916 with Boston beating Brooklyn behind a big game from pitcher Babe Ruth.

Kenley Jansen tossed 1 1/3 scoreless innings before yielding to Kershaw in the ninth. The three-time Cy Young Award winner, pitching on two days of rest after starting Game 5, finished off the Brewers by striking out Mike Moustakas in a perfect ninth.

Kershaw's teammates mobbed the lefty near the mound after the final out, and the celebration was just beginning for the Dodgers.

"I'm just so proud of our guys for enduring this roller coaster of a season," manager Dave Roberts said.

What a surge for a team that was 10 games under .500 on May 16.

The Dodgers have talked about having unfinished business after losing Game 7 of the World Series last year to the Houston Astros.

Now they've made baseball's final series of the year in back-to-back seasons for the first time since 1977-78.

"I know how lucky I am to be a part of it two years in a row," Bellinger said.

With their 23rd pennant, the Dodgers have matched the rival Giants for most among NL teams.

The Brewers had their chances against rookie starter Walker Buehler, a 24-year-old right-hander who navigated through trouble over 4 2/3 innings. He allowed six hits, including a home run in the first by Yelich that made it 1-0.

Yelich looked like he would hurt the Dodgers again in the fifth with Lorenzo Cain on second with two outs. The NL MVP candidate hit a high, hard liner to left that seemed destined to fall in for a double.

Running at full speed to his left, Taylor extended his glove high in the air just as the ball settled into the mitt to end the inning.

"They made the plays, they made the pitches when they had to (make) to win," Yelich said.

The Dodgers waited for lights-out lefty Josh Hader to leave the game to get their bats going again.

Brewers manager Craig Counsell brought in Hader in the third after starter Jhoulys Chacin allowed a two-run homer to Bellinger in the second for a 2-1 lead for the Dodgers. Hader tossed three shutout innings, striking out four before being pulled after 31 pitches.

Milwaukee's vaunted bullpen then scuffled in the sixth.

Puig's three-run shot off reliever Jeremy Jeffress quieted the breathless, screaming Brewers fans at Miller Park. Puig had been hitless in his previous five at-bats against Jeffress, striking out each time.

The excitable Puig raised both arms as he rounded second, wiggling his fingers skyward to mimic the Brewers' trademark celebration move. Manny Machado, the object of nonstop boos from Milwaukee fans, obliged with the same gesture as he watched from the dugout steps.

Bellinger raised his right arm and pointed to his biceps as he rounded third after his homer.

The mighty Dodgers, who hit an NL-best 235 homers, outslugged the Brewers, who were second in the league with 218.

Taylor said that it was so loud in the outfield that trying to communicate with Bellinger in center while tracking Yelich's liner in the gap in the fifth was difficult.

It was about reacting at that point, Taylor said.

"A lefty hits it in the gap, it kind of tails. You really don't know how much that ball is going to tail. So really, it's just a reaction play," he said.

The loss ended a remarkable year for the Brewers. A late surge led by Yelich lifted Milwaukee from 5 1/2 games out of the NL Central lead on Aug. 28 to one win short of the franchise's second World Series appearance.

"They took us on an amazing journey," Counsell said about his team. "It was a magical run."

An American League team in 1982, the Brewers lost the Series in seven games that year to the St. Louis Cardinals.

Game 7 against the Dodgers was the first at home for the franchise, coming 36 years to the day after losing the seventh game to the Cardinals in the Series.

Same result on Saturday.

With Yelich and first baseman Jesus Aguilar emerging as offensive cornerstones, along with a deep well of young pitching in the majors, the Brewers figure to contend again in 2019.

They'll have to dethrone the Dodgers.

"We were right there," Jeffress said. "I think the biggest thing we take from this is we have all the pieces next year, we just have to put it together better than we did today."

AP

Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig (66) slides safely into third against Milwaukee Brewers' Mike Moustakas (18) on a double by Chris Taylor during the ninth inning of Game 7 of the National League Championship Series baseball game Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018, in Milwaukee.

Dodgers-Red Sox: Rich histories, but little crossover

Sandy Koufax, Jackie Robinson and the Boys of Summer. Ted Williams to Yaz and the Impossible Dream.

Manny Ramirez. Pedro Martinez. Bill Buckner.

Fenway Franks and Dodger Dogs. Ebbets Field, the Green Monster. "Sweet Caroline" or "I Love L.A."

Yet for all their rich history — dating back to Babe Ruth on the mound — the Boston Red Sox and Los Angeles Dodgers have rarely crossed paths heading into this World Series. Only once before in October, and that was more than a century ago.

In fact, Clayton Kershaw has never even pitched at Fenway Park.

Consider this: Going into Game 1 on Tuesday night, the Dodgers have beaten the Red Sox in Boston just one time.

That came on June 12, 2004. And guess who scored and drove in a run for the Dodgers during that 14-5 romp?

Alex Cora, now the rookie manager of the Red Sox. One of his teammates that afternoon—Dave Roberts, ready to lead Los Angeles into its second straight Fall Classic.

"It's great for baseball," Roberts said. "Two storied franchises going head-to-head. It's going to be a great series."

Roberts is sure to draw a big cheer when the teams line up for pregame introductions. He's still a fan favorite in Boston for his daring stolen base that sparked an unprecedented comeback from a 3-0 deficit against Mariano Rivera and the rival Yankees in the 2004 AL Championship Series.

The Red Sox went on to end their 86-year title drought by sweeping St. Louis in the World Series, boosted by Big Papi, Pedro and Manny. Starting next week, Boston will try for its fourth championship in 15 seasons.

"I'm looking forward to going back to Fenway. Obviously for me personally, I have a lot of fond memories of the Red Sox and Fenway Park," Roberts said. "To be wearing another uniform going in there playing for a World Series championship is going to be special for me."

MVP candidate Mookie Betts, slugger J.D. Martinez and the Red Sox posted a team-record 108 wins, a big payoff for the team with the top payroll in the game. Boston pushed past New York in the AL Division Series and then quickly dispatched the defending champion Astros in the ALCS.

Chris Sale is set to pitch the opener for the Red Sox. He recently spent a night in the hospital because of a stomach illness, and no doubt watchful eyes will be on the lefty ace.

Los Angeles is aiming for its first championship since Kirk Gibson, Orel Hershiser and Tommy Lasorda brought home the crown in 1988.

"It doesn't matter how you get there. But to get to come back and go back from last year, it's unbelievable," Kershaw said. "Where we came from this year, it's a testament to these guys, man. It's a great group. We're excited."

"We don't want to lose again, so we're going to be ready to go," he added.

New to the power-packed Dodgers this season is star shortstop Manny Machado, acquired in a July trade with Baltimore. Boston fans are plenty familiar with him — his late slide last year injured longtime Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia, and led to a tense situation at Fenway with Sale throwing behind Machado.

Soon as they see him, Red Sox rooters might even take up the familiar chant of "Beat LA!"

Boston favored slightly

In Las Vergas, the Boston Red Sox opened as a slight favorite in this city's sports books to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series.

Oddsmakers at the Westgate Las Vegas Superbook set the Red Sox as minus-135 favorites in early betting, with the Dodgers made plus-115 to win the series. That means a $135 bet on the Red Sox will pay $100, while a $100 bet on the Dodgers pays $115.

Odds on the individual games will be posted when pitching matchups are named.

PEGS rallies to beat Armatech in OT

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
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CORRESPONDENT

PEGS eked out a come-from-behind victory against Armatech in overtime, 80-72, during their game in the IT&E Emon Masonic Lodge No. 179 Mixed Masters Brotherhood Basketball League last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

Gino Libuw scored 9 of his 15 points in the extra period, while Melvin Villarin made a pair of baskets to hand PEGS the win.

Armatech was on top throughout the game, but PEGS remained persistent and stole the victory.

PEGS was behind by as much as 14 points in the third period and was still facing a double-digit deficit at the start of the fourth, 37-48, when Dennis Geron led the team's recovery. Geron aggressively attacked the basket, set his teammates up, and headed to the line multiple times to score 15 points in the final canto. Libuw and Rasa also backed up Geron in helping PEGS force the standoff at the end of the regulation, 65-all. Libuw then took over in the extension to complete PEGS' comeback.

Geron and Villarin top-scored for PEGS with 21 points apiece. Villarin delivered 13 points in the second quarter, which was enough to keep PEGS within striking distance after the first half, 27-29. Don Brennan and Ponce Rasa added 11 each.

Alex Lauron and Bernard Montano finished the game with 13 points apiece, while Renren Gaviola contributed 10 points. Jun Alipio Jr. had 9 points for Armatech with 5 coming in overtime where his team was held to two field goals.

PEGS 80 — Geron 21, Villarin 21, Libuw 15, Brennan 11, Rasa 11, Leonor, 1

Armatech 72 — Lauron 13, Montano 13, Gaviola 10, Alipio Jr. 9, Moreno 7, De Guzman 4, Zapanta 3, Asuhan 2, Tolosa 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-14, 27-29, 37-48, 65-65, 80-72 (OT)

Raiders RB Lynch to miss month with groin injury

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP)— Oakland Raiders running back Marshawn Lynch will miss at least a month because of a groin injury.

A person familiar with the injury said Friday that an MRI this week determined the severity of the injury. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team has not made any announcement. NFL Network first reported the diagnosis.

Lynch was hurt last week in Oakland's 27-3 loss to Seattle in London. The Raiders (1-5) are off this week and will play again on Oct. 28 at home against Indianapolis. Oakland could choose to place Lynch on injured reserve, which would require him to miss at least eight weeks.

The 32-year-old Lynch has been one of the few bright spots for the Raiders this season. He ranks 12th in the league with 376 yards rushing, averaging 4.2 yards per carry with three touchdowns. Lynch ranks fourth in the NFL in rushing since Week 12 last season.

Oakland Raiders running back Marshawn Lynch (24) is tackled by Seattle Seahawks cornerback Shaquill Griffin (26) and strong safety Bradley McDougald (30) during the second half of an NFL football game at Wembley stadium in London, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018. AP

Lynch's best game came in Oakland's only win when he ran for 130 yards last month against Cleveland when he showed off the power that earned him the nickname Beast Mode. Lynch came out of retirement last season in order to join the hometown Raiders before they move to Las Vegas in 2020. He is in the final year of his contract.

With Lynch sidelined, the struggling Raiders will likely turn to Doug Martin and Jalen Richard to carry the bulk of the load at running back. Martin was signed to be the main backup to Lynch this season but has been unproductive so far. He has 27 carries for 99 yards and four catches for 5 yards this season. He is averaging just 3.0 yards per carry since the start of the 2016 season.

Richard is more of a receiving back, ranking second on the team with 31 catches for 253 yards. Richard has carried the ball 11 times for 32 yards this year and has never had more than nine carries in a game in his three seasons in the NFL.

GCA

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middle school volleyball program, Libut attributed them to the full support of the school administration, the coaching team's partnership with the players' parents, and the total commitment and dedication of every player, coach, and trainer involved in GCA's volleyball program.

As for Agape, Yang Pang, who coached the team in their semis win over GCA 2 in absence of his father Cok Pang, was thankful for the opportunity to make it to the finals.

"Praise the Lord for giving us this opportunity to go to the finals. We couldn't do anything without Him. Thank God for giving us this opportunity to play and have healthy bodies to play," Pang said.

Yang Pang added that many of their players are newcomers and sophomores and they are learning a lot about volleyball as they put in the time and effort needed to advance through their playoff bracket.

With the finals set, GCA 1 and Agape 1 have different approaches in their preparation for the championship game.

"Right now, our team is focusing on defense. Hopefully, we will be able to counter Agape's strong offense," Libut said. "The team is really excited. We may have a grand slam this year. They are ready to give their best for this championship game."

"The biggest thing we are focusing on is movement on the court. If they don't get to the ball, then there's no way to pass it effectively. They need to practice facing the target and passing the target with the volleyball in front of them instead of going for those 50-50 side passes," Yang Pang said.

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enth place).

Team Marianas also fielded male runners in the individual race and Tinian High School's Tyler Santos, Agape Christian School's Lue Xiong, Chenxuan Yang, and Kaiping Wang, MHS' Ken Song, and SIS' Kuu Nishimura teamed up for an eighth place finish out of the 16 groups that competed in their division.

All 12 members then raced in the co-ed relay event (10K) held at the Ypao Beach Park and they were ranked fourth, giving Team Marianas the No. 4 spot in the overall rankings—four notches up from their finish last year.

"This was a tremendous improvement! I don't think the CNMI has ever done this well," said Rony Snyder, who coached the women's team.

Synder added that the CNMI's female runners were the fastest in Micronesia, beating their counterparts from Guam and Palau. Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and the Philippines were also represented in the AsPac meet.

Tan gains All-Island honors

Tan was the top finisher among the CNMI female runners in the 5K race and earned a spot in the elite All-Island Team.

The SIS senior timed in at 21:58.2, breaking the 23:18.4 she recorded in last year's race. Tan was ranked No. 10 out of the 101 female runners that completed the race. The SIS student, who was surprised with her achievement, joined the Top 15 runners on the podium to receive their medals for making it to the All-Island Team.

"I felt shocked but happy and excited to make it to the All-Island Team. Placing in the Top 10 makes me feel relieved and happy because I can say that all the hard work I put into training has finally paid off. The race was tough, as there were a lot of strong runners. The course was also slightly different than last year, as we had to run on the track this year so I had to adjust my pacing a bit at first, but in the end everything was good. The girls pushed me to run faster during the race as well as the rest of the team, coaches, and friends/family cheering for me on the sidelines," Tan said.

Recording the second-best time for Team Marianas in the women's division was McCallion after registering 23:22.4. Snyder, Millare, Castillo, and Miyawaki submitted 23:45.8, 24:13, 24:16.2, and 25:54, respectively.

In the men's race, Santos was the best finisher for Team Marianas with his 19:12.1 (No. 27 overall out of 155 finishers). Xiong came in next after recording 20:22.5 and was followed by Song (20:28.3), Yang (20:55.7), Wang (22:11.3), and Nishimura (22:19).

In the co-ed relay, Tan and Santos paired and had the fastest time on the team after checking in at 43:56.9.

American School in Japan won in the relay and also ruled the men's and women's 5K races en route to taking the overall championship. St. Mary's International School/Seisen International School was ranked second overall, while JFK finished third.

LOPSIDED

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the biggest winning margin of the night, as it started pulling away from Hawaiian Rock late in the second quarter and went for the kill in the third. Ahead by only four, 28-24, with a little over three minutes left in the second frame, Best Deal/RNV had a 10-2 windup to enter the halftime break with a 38-26 advantage. Ronald Rueda led Best Deal/RNV's strong finish in the first half, scoring 12 straight points in the second quarter and 8 of the team's last 10 in the late surge.

Rueda kept going and drew a lot of help from his teammates, as Best Deal/RNV more than tripled Hawaiian Rock's output in the third quarter with a 26-8 scoring spurt for a commanding 64-34 advantage.

Hawaiian Rock never attempted to cut the deficit to a decent number, awarding Best Deal/RNV a 41-point winning margin. Best Deal/RNV bagged its first victory, while Hawaiian Rock fell to a 0-2 mark.

Meanwhile, MJD Construction outgunned Coca-Cola in the first half to establish a double-digit lead and matched its foes output in the second to make it to the win column after losing its debut.

Cecilio Bisana drilled 9 points in the first quarter to lift MJD to a 22-13 advantage and then teamed up with Mico Usi in the second canto to pad their lead at the break, 48-33. Bisana added 10 more markers in the second quarter, while Usi chipped in 6. The lanky MJC player ended up with 30 points, while Usi finished with 16 despite failing to score in the first frame.

In the last game of the night, Triple J opened a 25-15 lead over D&Q/CTSI in the first period and showed no mercy in the final canto with a 31-16 scoring surge to bag another easy victory. Triple J also whipped MJD in its first game of the season, 100-66. Triple J reached the century mark anew in its second game after running another balance offense. Eman Cobacha paced Triple J with his 24 points, Carl Aldan tallied 23, and Kenji Abobo added 16. Four other Triple J players hit at least two baskets apiece.

First Game

MJD 89 — Bisana 30, Usi 15, Castillo 15, Rosario 6, Cabalquinto 6, Baretto 4, Deocares 3, Medrano 2.

Coca-Cola 74 — Capalad 32, Armia 21, Nuique 5, Reyes 2, Felix 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-13, 48-33, 66-51, 89-74.

Second Game

Best Deal/RNV 89 — R. Rueda 36, Catindig 14, Motos 10, M. Tagle 8, Corpuz 4, Malenad 4, Jumaquio 2, J. Rueda 2, Alfonso 2, Corong 2.

Hawaiian Rock 48 — J. Reyes 15, Pulsa 11, David 6, Baurile 6, M. Reyes 4, Camacho 3, Pacurib 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-11, 38-26, 64-34, 89-48.

Third Game

Triple J 107 — Cobacha 24, Aldan 23, Abobo 16, Patron 7, Mamaril 6, Oris 6, Geli 6, Inos 4, Cosager 4, Jarabe 4.

D&Q/CTSI 69 — Rivera 20, Fujihira 18, Echavez 10, Nakashima 8, Tenepere 7, Benevente 6, Canete 4, Manalili 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-15, 52-33, 76-52, 107-69.

2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong (with glasses) huddles with Team Marianas members before the start of the 2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships last Friday at the John F. Kennedy High School in Guam.

Team Marianas members pose for a photo after the five-kilometer race.

Malika Miyawaki keeps a steady pace.

Three CNMI runners join a pack in running along the JKF track oval.

Team Marianas male runners line up during the opening ceremony of the event.

Anika Snyder keeps up with a small group of runners as they round the track oval.

Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong, left, gives last-minute instructions to Team Marianas' male runners.

Tinian pride Tyler Santos crosses the finish line.

Fight breaks out as Rockets spoil LeBron's home debut

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Strong run for Team Marianas

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Team Marianas members jump for joy after a strong showing in the 2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships held over the weekend in Guam.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Team Marianas' female runners made it to the Top 3 of the 2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships held over the weekend in Guam.

Saipan International School's Tania Tan, Stella McCallion, Anika Snyder, and Malika Miyawaki and Marianas High School's Therize Millare and Jerlyn Castillo combined for 140 points in the five-kilometer individual race last Friday at the John F. Kennedy High School grounds to rank third out of the 12 women's teams in the annual tournament. Last weekend's Top 3 finish surpassed the women's squad's performance in the 2017 race (sev-

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GCA eyes 3-peat; Agape targets first title

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
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CORRESPONDENT

Grace Christian Academy 1 and Agape Christian School 1 will be squaring off in a winner-take-all finale in the middle school division of the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League tomorrow at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Game time is at 4:30pm after the 3:30pm match between Mt. Carmel School and GCA 2 for third place honors. GCA 1 is aiming to keep the title on the Eagles' nest after GCA 2 won last year's championship against Mt. Carmel, while Agape 1 hopes to prevail in its first finals appearance in the middle school volleyball competition.

Eagles head coach Cesar Libut, the mastermind behind GCA's back-to-back title wins in the division, said that more than ruling the tournament again, their goal is to use their talents in volleyball to serve a higher purpose.

"Our major goal in this volleyball program is to use the talents God has given us to bring glory to His name," Libut said.

When asked about the keys to success of the Eagles'

See GCA on Page 26

ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
Grace Christian Academy's Juruel Magtalas serves to Mt. Carmel School during their semis game in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium

22 DAYS
KAN PACIFIC POOL
CLOSED

Lopsided wins in JP World caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Triple J, MJD Construction, and Best Deal/RNV routed their respective opponents in the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

MJD set the theme in the triple-header after topping Coca-Cola in the curtain-raiser, 89-74, while Best Deal/RNV and Triple J also earned easy victories against Hawaiian Rock, 89-48, and D&Q/CTSI, 107-69, respectively.

Best Deal/RNV posted

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Best Deal/RNV's Andy Mortos pulls up for a one-hander against three Hawaiian Rock defenders during the third quarter of their game in the JP World caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.